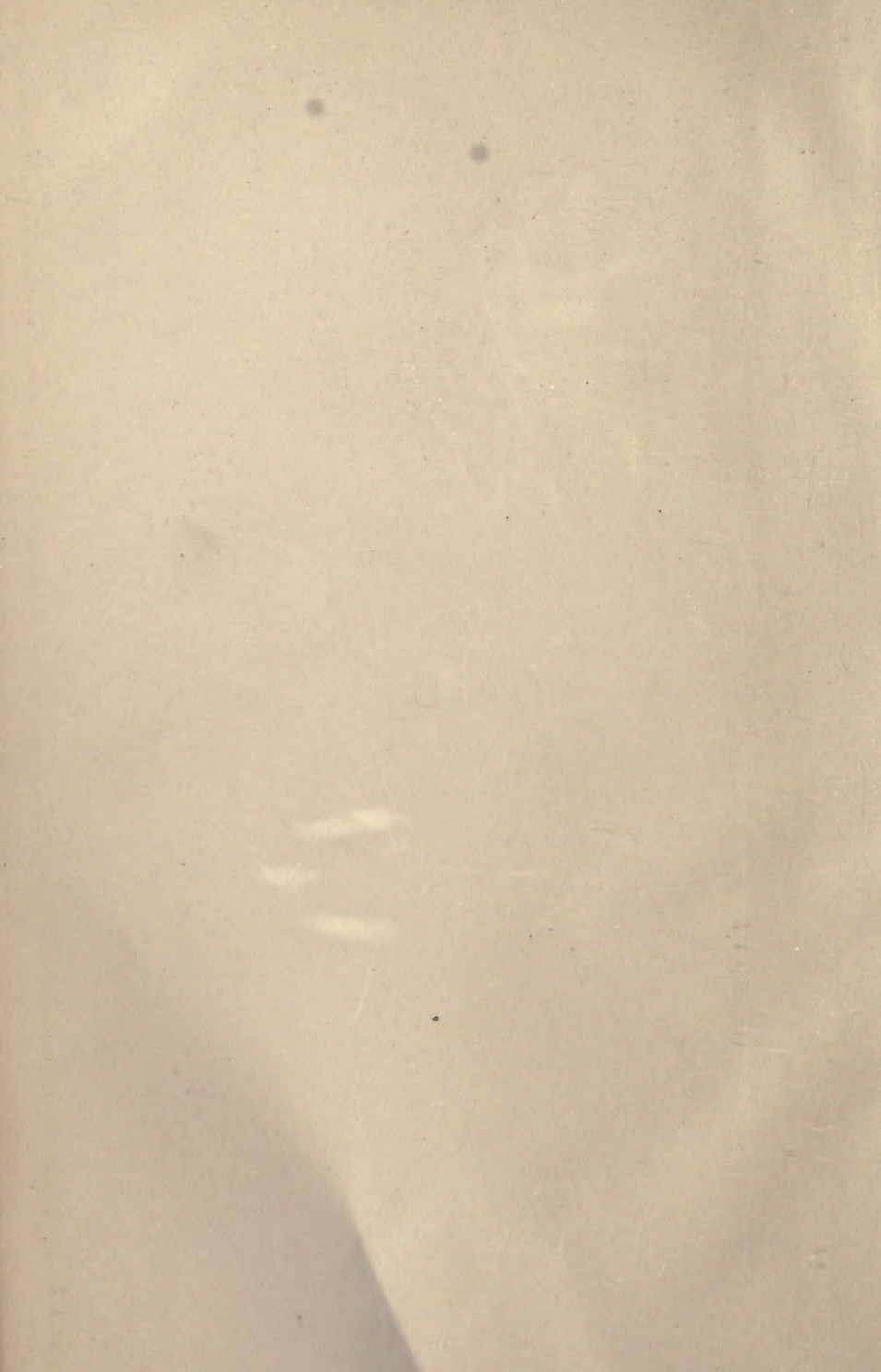


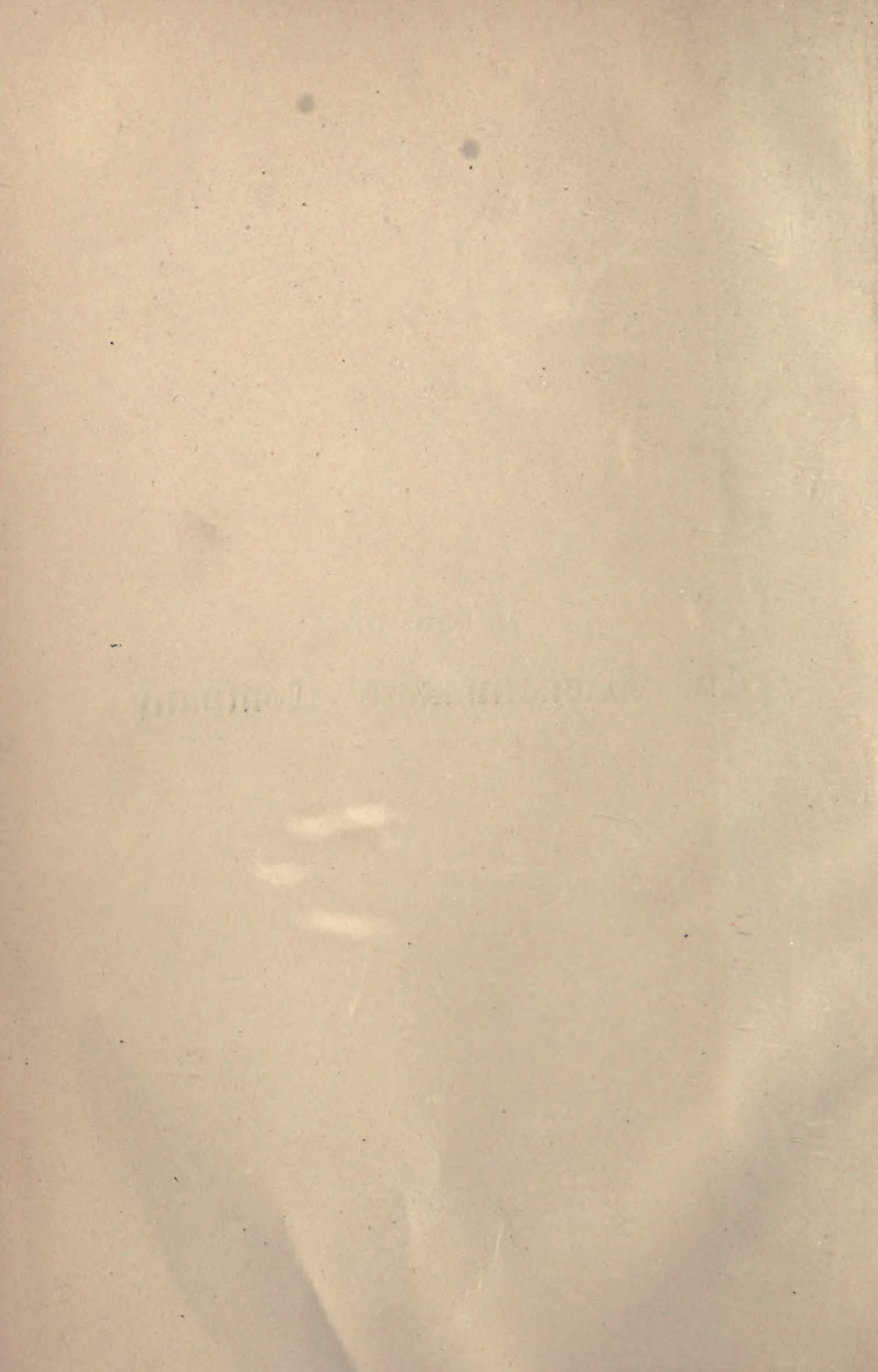



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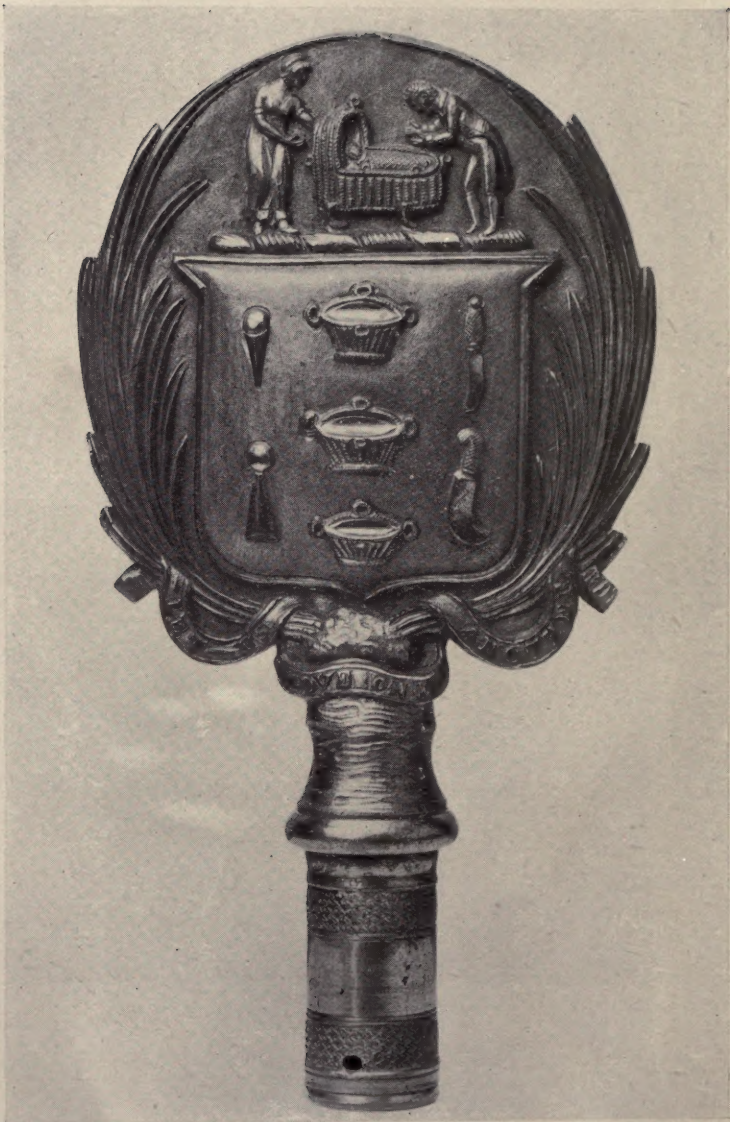
RECORDS OF

The Basketmakers' Company





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THE OLD MACE.

[Frontispiece.]

Ec. H
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Basketmakers' Company, London

RECORDS OF

The

Basketmakers' Company.

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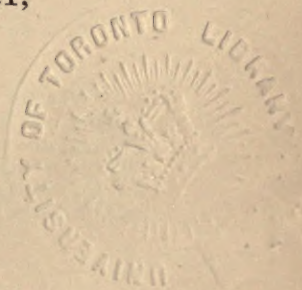
HENRY HODGKINSON BOBART,

CLERK TO THE COMPANY.



LONDON:
DUNN, COLLIN & CO.
ST. MARY AXE, E.C.
1911.

420094
6.3.44



“Whereof also . . . there be Baskets made, which seeing the Britains call Bascades, I for my part that I may note so much by the way, doe not understand the Poet Martiall in that Distichon unlesse he meaneth these among the Presents and Gifts sent to and fro ; Barbara de pictis veni Bascauda Britannis, Sed me jam mavult dicere Roma suam.”

CAMDEN (1610).

THE COURT OF
The Worshipful Company of Basketmakers.
1910-1911.

PRIME WARDEN:

PALMER BRYANT, Esq.

JUNIOR WARDEN:

REUBEN HENRY FROST, Esq.

ASSISTANTS:

WILLIAM THOMAS PARMLY MONTGOMERY, Esq.

JOHN GEORGE DIBBLE, Esq.

JAMES PALMER PIKE, Esq.

EDWARD KNOTT, Esq.

FREDERICK HENRY PULLEN, Esq.

GEORGE HENRY FINCH, Esq.

JOHN WHITTLE HARVEY, Esq.

WILLIAM PHILIP GOOSEY, Esq.

FREDERICK DUNN, Esq.

ALFRED DOUBLE, Esq., J.P.

HORACE ROBERT SPENCE, Esq.

WALTER YOUNG, Esq., LL.B.

AUGUSTUS GEORGE GRANTHAM, Esq.

RICHARD FEESEY, Esq.

ARTHUR BLENKARN, Esq.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS BULLWORTHY, Esq.

JAMES CHARLES NAPOLEON WHITE, Esq.

AUGUSTUS ALFRED FRIGOUT, Esq.

REV. J. H. ETCHER, M.A.

WALTER GLADDING, Esq.

WILLIAM FOSTER GRESHAM, Esq., F.C.A.

ROBERT WILLIAM MOFFREY, Esq., J.P.

TO
THE WARDENS AND COURT OF ASSISTANTS
OF THE
Worshipful Company of Basketmakers
OF THE CITY OF LONDON,
THIS VOLUME
IS RESPECTFULLY AND GRATEFULLY
DEDICATED.

“And bending osiers into baskets weav’d.”

DRYDEN.

P R E F A C E

THE Craft Guilds or Livery Companies, with their ancient records and historical associations, rank among the most interesting institutions of the City of London. Deprived of old-world surroundings, their quaint customs have lost their former significance, and their powers and privileges have, with few exceptions, become obsolete. Yet in spite of altered economic conditions the old Guilds survive, for time seems powerless to efface such splendid monuments to the wisdom and industry of our forefathers.

The annals of most of these ancient Guilds have been written, but the compiler of the following pages found to his regret that no history of the Basket-makers existed. A search among the civic and parochial archives was therefore instituted and this account compiled, with the object of preserving the old records, and in the hope that the work now submitted may serve as an outline for the worthier efforts of others in the future. The book has been written in the few spare

hours of a busy life ; some consideration, therefore, is asked for literary shortcomings.

The scanty records prior to the establishment of the Company suggest an earlier organization of the fraternity, though no documentary evidence of this has yet been found. There are traces of Basket-makers in the City at an early period, and the more remote the time in which there is evidence of the existence of a craft, the stronger is the presumption that the members of that craft had associated themselves for their mutual protection.

The Company's quarter or minute books date back to the year 1661, the earlier ones having been destroyed in the Great Fire. The little information before that date has been obtained chiefly from the records of the Corporation of the City of London contained in the Letter Books, Repertories and Journals preserved at the Guildhall. The records reveal the condition and progress of basket-making for a considerable period, and thus in some measure, these pages become the history of the trade in London.

Basket-making, a craft requiring few and simple tools, is one of the oldest of the mechanical arts, and primitive bone awls—the archaic implements of the first basket-makers—have been found among the remains of the

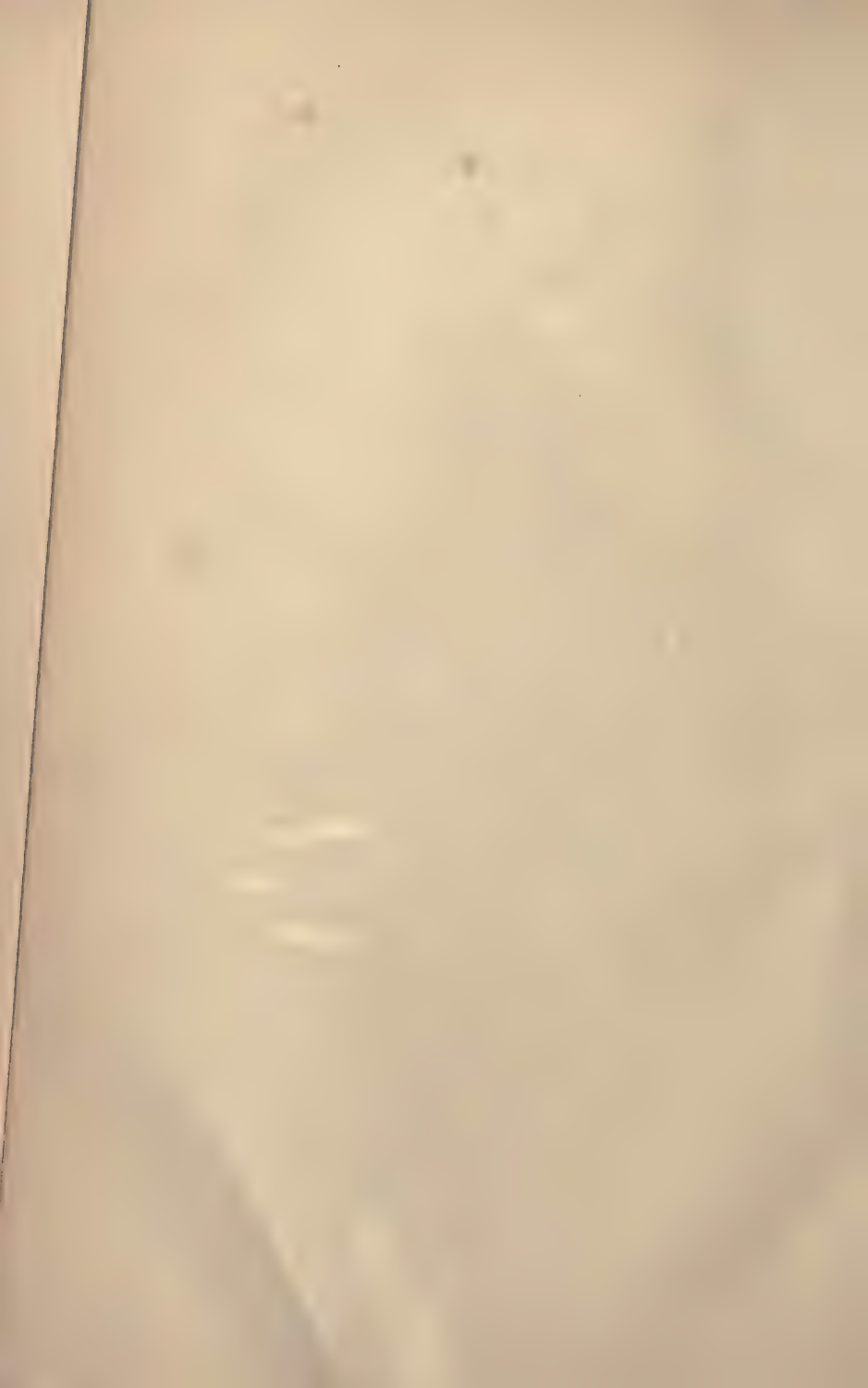
Mound Builders. It is probable that the art of weaving originated from the interlacing of twigs into wickerwork, but the origin of the earlier craft appears to be lost in the obscurity of prehistoric times.

The compiler presents his grateful acknowledgments to the Library Committee of the Corporation of the City of London for the privilege accorded him of searching among the treasures of the Muniment Room ; and to Dr. Reginald R. Sharpe, Clerk of the Records (whose Calendars of the Corporation Letter Books afford the student of London history an exhaustive store of valuable information). The compiler's thanks are also due to Mr. F. J. Craker, of the Town Clerk's Office, and Mr. H. C. Welch, of the Guildhall Library, for assistance so generously given.

H. H. B.

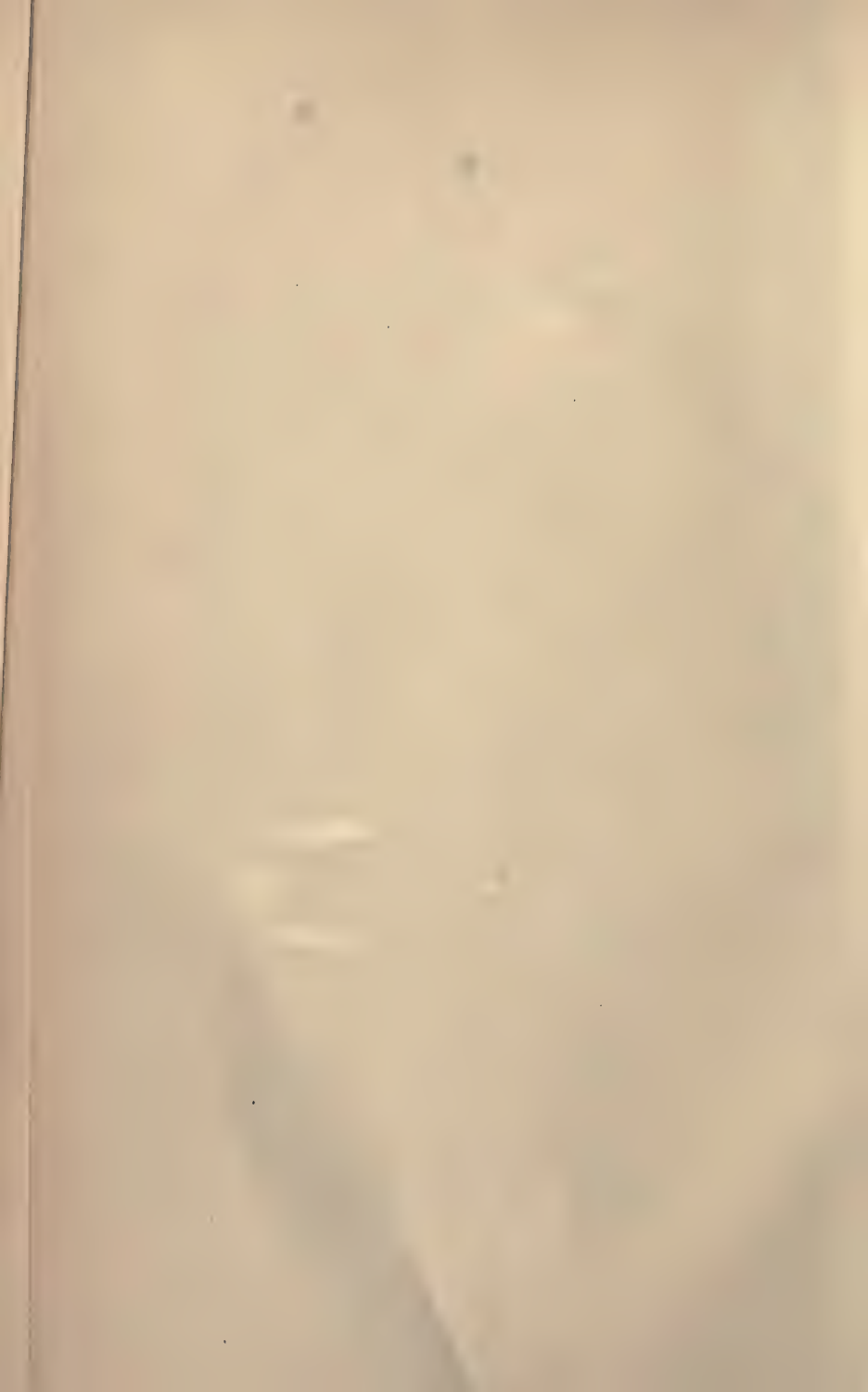
22, BASINGHALL STREET, LONDON.

September, 1911.



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INTRODUCTION

THE Basket-makers' Company was established * by an order of the Court of Mayor and Aldermen on the 22nd September, 1569. This recognition was referred to in the petition for ordinances, as being "transferred and made free all of one crafte, companie, and ffellowshipp, called the Basket-makers of the Cittie of London."

Many years prior to the above date, the civic authorities had granted licence to a small number of English Basket-makers to exercise their trade in the City; but at the time of their constitutional settlement the majority had secured their freedom of the City through the instrumentality of the Butchers' Company, and the reference to being "transferred" relates to the formal transfer of the free Basket-makers from that body.† The number of non-freemen enrolled in 1569 "free of this City of the

* The word "incorporated" is used in the City Records. On the distinction between incorporation by charter of the Crown and establishment by authority of the City, see Lambert, "Two Thousand Years of Gild Life," 1891, pp. 376-385; also Pulling, "The Laws, Customs, Usages, and Regulations of the City and Port of London," 1854, 2nd ed. p. 50.

† City Records.—Repertory 16, fols. 106 and 112b.; Letter Book V. fol. 49b., *vide* pp. 28, 29, 49, 50.

Company of Basket-makers" was eleven.* This number was subsequently increased by the addition of the Basket-makers free of the Butchers' Company; and although the number transferred is not recorded,† it may be inferred from the account of the incident that, having regard to the times, it was fairly considerable.

The trade of basket-making—in which the ancient Britons excelled—was established in the City in early times, but no doubt the comparatively humble position of the craft accounts for the non-recognition of the Basket-makers before the latter part of the sixteenth century.

It is thought that the Company existed before 1569, but an exhaustive search in the City archives and the churchwardens' books referring to the parishes in which the Basket-makers resided, revealed no trace of the existence of an earlier corporation established by royal or civic authority. The most that can be said on this obscure point, in view of the antiquity‡ of the trade, is that some form of voluntary association of the fraternity probably existed at a remote period,

* Repertory 16, fol. 502; Letter Book V. fol. 254, *vide* p. 41.

† Owing to the loss of the books of both Companies in the Great Fire, the number transferred cannot be ascertained; nor is it possible to state the date when the Basket-makers first made a practice of obtaining their freedom of the City through the Butchers' Company.

‡ In the first century (A.D.), "The chief exports from Britain were copper and tin, lime and chalk, pearls, corn, cattle, hides, cheese, horses, dogs, and slaves; with one solitary article of manufacture, baskets." (Dr. Henry, "History of Great Britain," 1771).

though unrecognised by the City. The inclusion of the Basket-makers in a list of crafts "of old accustomed" recorded in the Brewers' books in 1422 * and the few references in the City Records prior to the recognition of the Basket-makers, give colour to the conjecture. Several of the crafts enumerated by the Brewers † had obtained charters of incorporation before the above-mentioned date, and it may be assumed that all the others possessed some form of organization at that time by reason of their inclusion in the list. ‡ The Basket-makers, however, do not appear to have maintained continuity of association down to the date of the establishment of the Company, since in their petition for ordinances and in their subsequent petition for a charter, though mention is made of their "ancient calling," there is no reference to an earlier organization of the craft.

In their petition to the Court of Aldermen in 1569 praying for a constitutional settlement, the Basket-makers stated that "no provision or punishment had been devised to meet with deceit except in of late, both in slight making of the said wares as well in this City as in the Country." As no ordinances had been previously

* *Vide* p. 6.

† The list was prepared as a guide for letting the Brewers' Hall.

‡ This appears to be the opinion of authorities on the City Guilds—*vide* Unwin, "The Gilds and Companies of London," 1908, p. 88. Herbert, "History of the Twelve Great Companies of London," 1847, vol. i. p. 105. Jupp, "Historical Account of the Worshipful Company of Carpenters," 1848, p. 7.

granted by the Court of Aldermen, the Basket-makers were doubtless referring to an Act of Henry VIII.,* which *inter alia* gave power to bailiffs or governors of towns "to search, view and reform" the work of alien craftsmen. In their Petition of 1682 for a charter of the Crown, they stated that "they were an ancient society by virtue of certain Rules and Constitutions † granted them by the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen;" and the Attorney-General, in reporting on this petition, said, "I do find that they have been long a society governed by Rules and Constitutions approved by the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen from time to time." On receipt of this report, the Basket-makers submitted "Some Reasons" for their incorporation, in which they stated that "they had been a fellowship nearly 150 years." This agrees approximately with the date of the establishment of the Company.

In the course of the negotiations which preceded the civic recognition, the Court of Aldermen enquired of the Wardens of the Butchers whether their Company would agree to have all the Basket-makers taken from them for the purpose of being "united and incorporated to the other Basket-makers of this City" about to

* 15 & 16 Henry VIII. (c. 2). Ratified by a decree of the Star Chamber in 1528.

† Ordinances were granted by the Court of Aldermen in 1569, 1585, and 1610.

be "erected and made a Company and Fellowship of themselves." To this enquiry, the Butchers signified their assent.

Here it may be interesting to note that Stow, in describing Pudding Lane, tells us it was chiefly inhabited by Basket-makers, Turners, and Butchers. Living in the same locality, it seems obvious that the Basket-makers, before they received the privilege of enfranchisement in their own craft, should have secured the freedom of the City through the agency of the Butchers' or the Turners' Companies. As previously stated, many were free of the former, and a reference to the Turners' Company, in the City Record of May 3rd, 1569,* suggests the probability that several Basket-makers were free of the latter, for the Turners dealt largely in baskets at that period. In a later record of March 20th, 1622,† mention is made of a freeman of the Turners' Company following the trade of basket-making, and as late as 1747 baskets "figured considerably" in the Turners' shops.‡

Pudding Lane is in the parish of St. Andrew Hubbard, and in Stow's time several of the Churchwardens followed the occupations which the old historian tells us predominated in the locality.§

* *Vide* p. 30.

† *Vide* p. 113.

‡ Waller, "General Description of all Trades," *vide* Appendix A.

§ *Vide* pp. 16, 17, and notes, p. 17.

EARLY HISTORY OF THE CRAFT.

THE early history of the City Basket-makers is enveloped in obscurity, though some few references to the fraternity may be mentioned before passing on to the account of the establishment and subsequent records of the Company.

The earliest record discovered is the previously mentioned entry in the books of the Brewers' Company* in the year 1422. This is a list of the Crafts of London,† which at that time had long been in existence, the Basket-makers being the seventy-sixth on the list appearing under the following heading:—"The titles of divers crafts of old accustomed and still continuing in this the 9th year of Henry V., and here set down in case they may in any manner be of advantage to the Hall and Company of Brewers."

This list seems to have been prepared by the Brewers as a guide for letting their hall, at a period when many of the Companies and Fraternities did not possess halls of their own.

There is an early reference to the Basket-

* Brewers' Company, Court Minutes from 1418 to 1440, fol. 2.

† A facsimile of this record and translation giving the names of the Crafts, will be found in "The Gilds and Companies of London," 1908 (Unwin).

makers in an Order of Common Council, 12th October, 3 Edward IV. (A.D. 1463),* of which the following is a transcript :—

Item in isto comuni Consilio concessum est quod lez basketmakers goldwiredrawers et alii forinsici utentes misteris infra civitatem et tenentes shopas comorentur decetero apud blankcheapletone et in nullo alio loco infra liberatam civitatis dummodo sufficientes mansiones ibidem habere potuerint proviso semper quod siquis forinsicus jam occupaverit domum valoris *xl̄s* per annum comoretur apud blankch [apletone] predictum citra festum Pasche proximo futurum si in ista civitate commorari voluerit Et si jam occupaverit domum minoris valoris quam *xl̄s* per annum tunc comoretur ibidem citra festum Natalis domini proximo futurum, etc.†

[*Translation.*—Also at that Common Council it was agreed that the basketmakers, gold-wire drawers, and other foreigners ‡ practising crafts within the City and holding shops, should thenceforth reside at Blanche Appleton and at no other place within the liberty of the City, so long as sufficient houses should there be available, provided always, that if any foreigner now occupy a house of the annual value of 40*s.*, he shall take up his abode at Blanche Appleton aforesaid before the feast of Easter next coming if he wishes to reside in this City; and if he now occupy a house of lesser annual value than 40*s.*, then he shall take up his abode there before the feast of the Lord's Nativity next coming, etc.]

This old manor (in the parish of St. Katherine Coleman, in the Ward of Aldgate) derived its name from the lands of Blanch Appleton, and is

* A facsimile of this record in the City Books is given opposite. The Order is mentioned by Bohun in "*Privilegia Londini*," 1723, 3rd ed. pp. 160–161.

† Journal 7, fol. 43; *cf.* Letter Book L., fol. 20. ‡ *Vide* p. 10.

shown in the corrupt form of "Blanck Chepelton," in a descriptive map of London drawn by Radulphus Aggas, in the time of Queen Elizabeth.* In the early part of the nineteenth century, some trace of the locality was to be found in the more corrupt form of "Blind Chapel Court," situated at the north-eastern end of Mark Lane.

Early mention of the manor is found in a deed, † dated A.D. 1177, as follows:—

Confirmation by Robert de Valoniis of the grant which David de Cornhella, and Robert his brother made to the canons of Holy Trinity, London, of their land of Blancheshapeltuna which is in his soke ‡ of the said city, rendering him therefor 4*d.* at Mid Lent, yearly for socage, and for this day they have given him one mark of silver in gersum. §

At an early period, part of the demesne was in the possession of the family of Roos of Hamelake, and part in the possession of the Bohuns (Earls of Hereford); but on the division of the estate of the last Earl in 1421, his portion of the property was allotted to his grandchild, Henry V.||

Stow, in his "Survey of London," ¶ writes:—

* *Circa* 1560. A reproduction is published with Besant's "London in the Time of the Tudors," 1904.

† Ancient Deeds (A. 7295), preserved in the Public Records Office.

‡ A liberty or privilege of jurisdiction within a certain precinct (A. S. sok.)

§ A fine extracted from a tenant on the transfer of his holding (A. S. gersum).

|| Parl. Rolls. vol. iv. 136.

¶ Stow's "Survey" (Thoms), 1842, p. 57.

I read in the 13th Edward I. that a lane behind the said Blanch Apelton was granted by the King to be inclosed and shut up. This Blanch Apelton was a manor belonging to Sir Thomas Roos of Hamelake, knight, the 7th of Richard II., standing at the north-east corner of Mart Lane, so called of a privilege sometime enjoined to keep a mart there, long since discontinued, and therefore foregotton, so as nothing remaineth for memory but the name of Mart Lane, and that corruptly termed Marke Lane.* I read that in the third of Edward IV. all basketmakers, wire-drawers and other foreigners were permitted to have shops in this manor of Blanch Apelton and not elsewhere within this city or suburbs thereof.

References to this long-forgotten manor of old London are rarely met with, but it is recorded that during the disturbed times of Edward IV., Sir Geoffrey Gates and a body of miscreants plundered the houses of the foreign traders in Blanch Appleton. On May Day, 1517,† the London apprentices showed their ill-feeling towards the aliens in the locality by breaking the windows and doors of their houses; the disturbance being ultimately quelled by the Lord Mayor and Aldermen. Ten pairs of gallows were nevertheless erected, one at Blanch Appleton and the others in different parts of the City; but only the ringleader suffered death, the rest being pardoned by the King on the intercession of the Lord Mayor.

By ancient custom, only persons free of the

* John Bagford, the antiquary, expressed the opinion that Mart Lane was a place where the Romans and, not improbably, the ancient Britons, used to barter with other nations.

† Known as Evil May Day.

City were allowed to sell any wares by retail, or occupy a shop within the City or the Liberties thereof; a privilege which had been confirmed by several Acts of Parliament. Edward III., by Charter granted in the 15th year of his reign, ordained that if any customs in the City involved hardship, the Mayor and Aldermen with the assent of the Commonalty might remedy the same. This monarch encouraged the settlement of foreign artificers in London, although his action infringed civic rights. In the following reign restrictions against foreigners were again made, though the subsequent action of Henry IV. in limiting the number of apprentices, no doubt helped to increase the alien immigration.

The Order of Common Council made in the reign of Edward IV., restricting the quarters of the Basket-makers to Blanch Appleton, appears to have been somewhat in the nature of a compromise, for, while allowing "foreigners" to remain in the City, it located them in a district which had apparently long been set apart for aliens.

Whether the word "foreigner" in this Order is used in the popular signification of the term, or in the technical sense of non-freemen, is somewhat uncertain. In their petition of 1569 for ordinances, the English Basket-makers complained of the strangers and aliens born out of the realm, who, for a *long time past* had exercised the trade of basket-making in the City, and the

Basket-makers of Blanch Appleton probably included a large number of aliens. Some time later they appear to have imported their wares, for "baskets from Holland" were in the list of goods to which the London apprentices took objection in the riot of 1517.

The foreign element was largely increased during the Reformation period and many Basket-makers came over from the Netherlands to escape religious persecution. These qualified as denizens and were given quarters in Eastcheap,* several of them being employed by the English Basket-makers. The conditions of the trade were no doubt considerably influenced by this influx of alien craftsmen, and at the time of the establishment of the Company, and for a considerable period after, the foreign Basket-maker was much in evidence. The preamble to the Company's Ordinance (No. 17) of 1569 states that the freemen were not able to supply the City with sufficient baskets unless they employed "foreigners and aliens" to work for them or had an adequate number of apprentices. This Ordinance permitted the freemen to keep such "foreigners and strangers" in their employ for five years, but no longer. On the expiration of the time it was found still impossible to meet the demand for baskets without employing foreigners, while in the subsequent Ordinances, granted in 1585, the freemen of the Company were allowed to retain indefinitely all the

* *Vide* Strype's "Annals of the Reformation," vol. iv. p. 569.

foreigners and strangers they had then in their employ, but were not to engage any more. By the Ordinances of 1610, freemen of the Company were not permitted to buy any wares from foreigners except such as "from ancient times" they had been accustomed to purchase from them, namely, "covered baskets, flaskets, stake maunds and timber ware."

The English Basket-makers (who had either obtained licence to remain in the City or had secured the right by taking up their freedom through a Company) lived in the parishes of St. Margaret Pattens and St. Andrew Hubbard about the close of the fifteenth century. This is the earliest trace of their place of abode. On the 22nd October, 1538, they were ordered by the Common Council to leave the City on account of the danger from fire caused by their alleged negligence. This order was not immediately enforced, for on the 9th September, 1539, the Basket-makers entered into recognisance not to imperil the City by fire,* and on the 23rd September of the same year, they presented a petition† to the Court of Aldermen for licence to occupy their houses "as they did before." This petition was taken into consideration and it was agreed to suspend the order for six months. There is no record of its being carried out at the expiration of that time, nor any further reference to the Act of Common

* *Vide* p. 21.

† *Vide* pp. 21 and 22.

Council until the 15th June, 1540, and the 25th October, 1541 ; on both these occasions it was ordered to be put immediately into execution. From the latter date there are no further references to the Basket-makers in the City Records until the 8th January, 1565/6,* when the Chamberlain was directed to call them together and ascertain whether they desired to be established as a Company.

During the long period in which they resided in the City, the only charge brought against them was that of indifference to the danger from fire ; but the inflammable nature of their wares and the prevailing conditions of the times should be taken into consideration. Several Basket-makers were appointed Churchwardens of the parishes in which they resided, and the records show that they were men of integrity and useful members of the community.

Some interesting entries are found in an old Vestry Minute Book of St. Margaret Pattens. The earliest—a record of the gift of an altar cloth by a Basket-maker's wife—appears in an inventory of additional ornaments “gotten and labored to be hadd for the same Churche use” during the period 1st March, 1479, to 7th March, 1486 :—

It an nodr Awter cloth of byrds eyen werke w^t a crosse in the mydds And writt und^r neith of the gyft of Bowenpersons wyff baskett maker.

* *Vide* p. 27, and note (*re date*), p. 126.

In the same book is recorded the receipt of £10, the bequest of a Basket-maker in the year 1494:—

It̄ x^t s^t off money By ye beqwest off Wylliam Johnson basketmaker upon whos sowle Jhs have mercy Gyvyn ye x yere off ye regne off Kynge harry the vijth That tyme beyng Wardens off ye seyde Seynt Marget paresche John Wright and John Jeffrey.

Other extracts from the Accounts of the Churchwardens of St. Margaret Pattens are:—

St. John Baptist 23 Hen. VII. to Xmas following, John Jeffrey and John Smyth Churchwardens.

It̄m Receyved of lodowyke* for the rent of a teñt† in Seynt Dunstans pisshe for midsom^r q^r ij^s iij^d

24 Henry VII. (Xmas).—Xmas, 1 Henry VIII., John Jeffrey and John Smyth Churchwardens.

Receyts of rentts in the pareche of Saynt Dunstans.

It̄m Rec^d of lodyweke basketmaker for a yerys rent at mechelms viij^s

Rental whilst John Moncase and Richard Browne were Churchwardens—7 Henry VIII.

St. Dunstans parishe.

Jasper Basketmaker for a teñt wthin the Aley yeldeing by yere viij^s

Christmas 1517 to Christmas 1518, John Geffery and Symond Goldesmyth Churchwardens.

* Ludwig was a basket-maker.

† Tenement.

| | |
|---|------|
| Itm Receyved of Jasper Baskettmaker for iij qrtrs ended at Midsomer aforesaide . . . | iijs |
| Itm paid for a newe key to a Basketmakers house in saint Dunstans pisshe . . . | iijd |

In the Churchwardens' Accounts several items relating to the purchase of baskets occur, showing the different purposes for which they were used in the Church, and the price of the wares in the sixteenth century:—

A.D. 1508–1509.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Itm payde for a holly brede basket . . . | ijd |
|--|-----|

A.D. 1511–1512.

| | |
|---|----|
| Itm paid for a Basket for the Chirche . . . | id |
|---|----|

A.D. 1523–1524.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Pd for a Basket to put in the plate . . . | vjd |
| Pd for a lok for the same Basket . . . | iiij ^d |

A.D. 1563–1564.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Pd ffor ij lytill Baskets to cary earthe . . . | iiij ^d |
|--|-------------------|

A.D. 1567–1568.

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Paid for a dust Baskyt | iijd |
|----------------------------------|------|

A.D. 1574–1575.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| More paid for a dust basket | iijd |
|---------------------------------------|------|

A.D. 1575–1576.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Itm payde for a basket | iiij ^d |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|

The Vestry Books of St. Andrew Hubbard also contain references to several members of the craft. In the Churchwardens' Accounts for the year 1527, there is an entry of the burial of a Basket-maker's wife, as follows:—

In þm̄ we charge us reseved at the berynge of
Willm Smythes wiffe the baskyt maker . vj^s

The husband did not apparently long survive the death of his consort, for in the same account is recorded the sum received for burying the Basket-maker :—

Rs at the berynge of Wyllm Smythe hem selfe vj^s

In the year 1587, the following particulars of the burial of a Basket-maker are recorded :—

Receyved for the Buringe of Cornelius Adrian-
son, ground and knell and the psons dutye viij^s

The Vestry Books of St. Andrew Hubbard which have been preserved, date from 1454, though in the early entries the occupations of the Churchwardens are not stated. Jasper Arnold is recorded Churchwarden for the two years 1530–31, and 1546–47. He was one of the twelve Basket-makers who, on the 9th September, 1539, entered into recognisance with the Chamberlain not to imperil the City by fire,* and in 1540 obtained a writ from Henry VIII. directing the Lord Mayor to allow him to carry on the trade of basket-making in the city.† He was evidently a man of some influence, and, if the order of the Court of Aldermen of 1541 to expel the Basket-makers from the City had been put into execution, he could have claimed the distinction of being the only Basket-maker residing in the City at the time.

* *Vide* p. 21.

† *Vide* pp. 23, 24.

Other Churchwardens of St. Andrew Hubbard of a later date, who followed the occupation of basket-making, were :—

Adryan Adryanson,* 1578–9 and 1589–90.

Richard Robinson, 1580–82 and 1589–90.

John Johnson,† 1584–86 and 1594–96.

John Olyfe,‡ 1586–88 and 1596–98.

Robert Wheatlye, 1594–96.

The names of the first three occur in the list of the eleven Basket-makers enrolled in the City Books on the establishment of the Company.§ Adryan Adryanson was one of the Wardens of the Company, and John Olyfe was probably the John Olyff translated from the Carpenters' Company on the 12th January, 1569/70.||

Mention is made of a Basket-maker in the Records of the Church of St. Mary-at-Hill. The reference occurs in an Inventory supplied to the Lord Mayor in connection with the Royal Commissioner's enquiries respecting church plate, etc., in 1552–3, as follows :—

ffirst, to Jesper,¶ the basket maker, vij o a halfe of alliblaste, at ij^s iiij^d le o, Svm^ā xvij^s vj^d.**

* This name appears several times as one of the auditors of the churchwardens' accounts.

† Co-churchwarden William Redmer, Butcher.

‡ Co-churchwarden Barnaby Bristow, Turner.

§ *Vide* p. 41.

|| *Vide* p. 50.

¶ Probably identical with Jasper Arnold. *Vide* pp. 16, 21, 23, 24, and Appendix J.

** Guildhall Library MS. 12³⁹₂ fol., 110^a.

In addition to the Order of Common Council of 1463, the City Records contain several references to the Basket-makers of a later date, relating chiefly to the danger from fire caused by the inflammability of their goods. These Records (distinguished by the *regnal year* as well as the civil year) are here set forth in chronological order:—

GRESHAM, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 18 JUNE, 30 HENRY VIII. (1538).

Itm̄ the byll of the chyrche wardeyns of Saynt Androwe hubbert ageynst the basketmakers was redde. And day ys gyven to theym the next co^rte day of saynt Peters day next comyng And to make reporte to thys co^rte of a convenyent place where the sayd basketmakers may dwell.*

GRESHAM, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER, 30 HENRY VIII. (1538).

Itm̄ that the basketmakers shall dwell w^yyn the suburbes of london & not w^yyn thys Cytie.†

GRESHAM, MAIOR.

COMMON COUNCIL 22 OCTOBER, 30 HENRY VIII. (1538).

At thys Comon Cownsayll bycawse that mysfortune of ffyer hath chauncyd by the neglygence of the basket makers of london yt ys agreed that none of the basket-makers aforesayd shall dwell w^yyn the walles of thys Cytie but yn some other convenyent places owt of thys Cytie on thyssyde the feast of the Natyvytie of Saynt John baptist next comyng.‡

* Rep. 10, fol. 35b.

† Rep. 10, fol. 53b.

‡ Journal 14, fol. 113. A facsimile of this Act is given opposite.

It is evident from the subsequent records that this Act of Common Council was not put into execution at the time. *Vide pp. 24, 25.*

113
Exceham.

De Consilio fente die martis videlicet xxij^o die Octobris
anno Regni Regis Henrici octavi regis Anglie et Francie
Militi magistro Cantuariensis Archiepiscopo et legem et
de iudicio et iudicium Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi. Militi Joanne Regi. Rectori
Magistro Joanne Cooley Willmo Gauray Willmo Sporyer. Willmo
Hagston. Henrico Hobbszorn Martine. Robertus Regis. Robertus
Sunder et Robertus Allyn. Admiratione Cantuariensis

At thes Conon Colonsyall by cause that mylportime of Baptist-makers
Hys hatz regimys by the negligence of the Baptist-makers of London
Hys yet regimys that none of the Baptist-makers shall drawe regimys
willeth of thes Regis But yn some other condemnynt place out
of thes Regis on thes side the first of the Natyvyte of Saint John
Baptist next coming



This Order was doubtless made in consequence of the disastrous fire which took place in the Basket-makers' quarters earlier in the same year. Stow* reports the incident in the following terms :—

In the parish of St. Margaret Pattens on 27th May, 1538, amongst the basket makers a great and sudden fire happened in the night season, which within the space of three hours consumed more than a dozen houses and nine persons were burnt to death there.

Wriothesley in his "Chronicles" thus refers to the calamity :—

Allso the 27th daye of Maye beinge the Monday in the Rogation weeke, was a great fyre in St. Margaret Pattyns parishe amonge the baskett makers, where were burnt and perished in three houres a dossin howses and 9 persons of men, women, and children, cleane burnt to death, which was a pyteous sight. †

Several of the houses burnt belonged to Balliol College, Oxford. In the College archives certain tenements in this parish are stated to have been given by Robert Beamond, and it is added, that by decree of the Masters and Fellows in the year 1538, "it was granted to Lady Ann Danvers under their common seal that the Office of the Dead be said every year for the good of her soul : and for her benefactions on account of her gift of £30 for the repair of the houses

* "Survey of London" (Thoms), 1842, p. 79.

† Wriothesley's Chronicle : Camden Society, N.S., No. 11, p. 81.

in the parish of St. Margaret Pattens, which had been much injured by fire." *

FORMAN, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER, 31 HENRY VIII. (1539).

Itm̄ for the matter betwene bayly colledge of Oxonford for theyre howses burned yn the pysshe of saynt Androwe yn estchepe of london & one of theyre tēts Robt Curson & Thomas Atkyns gent be appoynted by thys co^rte to here ye sayd matter & make report thereof unto thys co^rte.†

Balliol College possessed property in the parish of St. Andrew Hubbard in the time of Edward III. In the College records, the houses are stated to be situated in "Smith's-lane, alias St. Andrew Hoberds-lane," and in the reign of Henry VIII. they were tenanted chiefly by Basket-makers. Some trouble appears to have arisen between them and the owners in connection with the occupation of the houses re-erected after the fire. Ultimately it will be seen that the College authorities evoked the aid of the Crown to obtain possession of the property. ‡

FORMAN, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 4th SEPTEMBER, 31 HENRY VIII. (1539).

Itm̄ yt ys agreed that ye basket makers shalbe here upon tuesday next comyng to pvyde some other convenyent

* Paravicini, "Early History of Balliol College," 1891, p. 267.

† Rep. 10, fol. 118b.

‡ *Vide*, p. 23.

places owt of thys Cytie accordyng to an Act of comon
cownsayll * made thereof t^o Gressham Jornal fo. 113^o.†

FORMAN, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER, 31 HENRY VIII. (1539).

Itm̄ the basketmakers Edward Haseley yn estchepe Roger Norrys at bredstrete Thomas Dent yn bredstrete Willyā Ellys yn oldefysshestrete Cuthbert Remys yn brodstrete Gylbert Godfrey at byllyngsgate Jasp Arnold,‡ John Mathew,§ John Rogers, Cornelyus Johnson, Segar Deryk-son,|| Arnold Gyles|| at Saynt Androwes yn estchepe & the cōen cownsayll made the xxij day of October the xxx yere of kyng henry the eight t^o gressham fo. 113 ¶ They & eȳy of theym by theyre selff knowledge to owe unto george medley Chamblayn of the Cytye of london x^t s^t to be payed by way of Recognys^s The condicon hereof ys suche if they & eȳy of theym avoyde all stuffe belongyng to theyre mystery of basketmakers aforesayd out of theyr howses afore the feast of Saynt Michael the archangell next comyng And also in the meane tyme kepe sauffely & surely theyre fyre so that by meanes thereof any hurte come not unto any of the Inhātants of thys Cytie that than etc or ells etc.**

FORMAN, MAIOR.

TUESDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 31 HENRY VIII. (1539).

Itm̄ a peticon of the basket makers Inglysshemen to have lycens to occupye as they dyd afore & answered unto

* 22nd Oct., 1538, *vide* p. 18.

† Rep. 10, fol. 119b.

‡ Dutch alien (Denizen) Churchwarden of St. Andrew Hubbard, *vide* pp. 16, 17, 21, 23, 24, and Appendix J.

§ Probably identical with John Matthew, referred to on p. 23.

|| Dutch aliens (Denizens).

¶ *Vide* p. 18.

** Rep. 10, fol. 120b ; Letter Book P. fol. 198b.

theym that they shall labo^r unto ye comon cownsayll that they may sell theyre wares w^tyn thys Cytie and make the same w^tyn thys Cytie whyche shalbe on sonday next comyng.*

FORMAN, MAIOR.

COMMON COUNCIL 28 SEPTEMBER, 31 HENRY VIII.
(1539).

Itm̄ the petycon of the Basketmakers Inglyshemen for selling of their Basketts & Weate Roddes in their houses wⁱn this Cytie and for Whyte rodde to be layed in owtward places wⁱoute the Cytie wⁱout dūnger & pyll of ffyer was redde w^{ch} mat^t ys remytted by this cōen counseill to the Mayere & Aldreñ of london to be determyned by theim after their sad dyscrecōns And the same ordre so by theim to be taken to remaine in full strength and vertue.†

FORMAN, MAIOR.

(?) SEPTEMBER, 31 HENRY VIII. (1539).

At thys co^rte yt ys agreed that the basketmakers shall have respyte for pvydyng of theyre howses & removying of theyre stuffe aswell for fyer for the space of one half yere nowe next comyng & they may sell theyre wares yn theyre howses yn case the comon cōsayll woll agree unto the same.‡

FORMAN, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER, 31 HENRY VIII. (1539).

If the matter conēnyng the basketmakers shalbe harde the next co^rte day.§

* Rep. 10, fol. 135b.

† Letter Book P. fol. 196b ; Journal 14, fol. 158.

‡ Rep. 10, fol. 137.

§ Rep. 10, fol. 145b.

HOLLES, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 6 APRIL, 31 HENRY VIII. (1540).

Itm̄ the M^r & scolers of the Coledge of balyall of Oxford demaunded of John Mathew of london basketmaker the rent due by hym upon Thursday next & the sayd Mathew w^t hys cownsayll to be here upon tuysday next comyng.*

HOLLYS, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 3RD JUNE, 32 HENRY VIII. (1540).

It. the Kyngs most gracyous cōmyssyon for the matter of the M^r of bayly colledge of oxonford & hys felowes & John Mathewe was redde & agreed that y^e same shalbe fynally detm̄ined by thys co^rte.†

HOLLYS, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 15 JUNE, 32 HENRY VIII. (1540).

Itm̄ the kyngs cōmyssyon for the matter conēnyng the matter of ballyold coledge yn oxenford & John Mathewe basketmaker was redde & all ye circūstances of the same well pceyved by thys co^rte & agreed that the sayd maister & felowes shall entre imedyately ynto theyre owne howse newly buylded by them at theyr great costs & charges & pesibly & quyetly enjoy ye same w^tout Interupcon of the sayd Mathewe. And that the lawe made for the basketmakers shalbe put yn due and effectuell execucon according to ye act of coen ēsayl te^e gressham seī fo. 113.‡

HOLLES, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 8 JULY, 32 HENRY VIII. (1540).

Itm̄ the wyfe of Jasper Arnolde, basketmaker delyv̄yd unto my lorde mayer our sovaigne lord the kyngs writt

* Rep. 10, fol. 171.

† Rep. 10, fol. 159.

‡ Rep. 10, fol. 164.

directed unto hys lordship & to my masters the aldermen & shreves of thys Cytie raytyng in the same theffecte of the statute made A° xv° of o^r seyde so^{ve}aigne lords most gracyous raygne con^{ce}nyng Strūngers Artyfycers inhītyng thys Cytye & what jōneyemen & other sūnts they may kepe. And fynally comaundyng my seyde lorde mayer & hys worshipful brethern aforeseyde peaceably to pmytt the seyde Jasp to use and exerceyse hys seyde Crafte within the seyde Cytie.*

Described in the Patent Roll as a "basket-maker from parts of Brabant under the obedience of the Emperor," Jasper Arnold † came to England and was made a free denizen on the 12th December, 1534.‡ He obtained licence from the Crown to exercise his craft and, from an assessment made on the 30th April, 1549,§ he appears to have employed eight journeymen.

ROCHE, MAIOR.

TUESDAY, 25TH OCTOBER, 33 HENRY VIII. (1541).

Itm̄ for the matter con^{ce}nyng the basketmakers of this Cytie yt is agreyd that my lorde mayer shall cause the Acte of coen counsayll thereof made to be putt in due & spedye execu^{co}n in e^{vy} poynt. ||

The Act of Common Council referred to in the above record was made on the 22nd October, 1538,¶ and from the tenor of the order of the

* Rep. 10, fol. 166b.

† *Vide* pp. 16, 17, 21, and Appendix J.

‡ Patent Rolls, 26 Henry VIII., Public Records Office.

§ Lay Subsidies, 3 Edward VI., *vide* Appendix J. (p. 162).

|| Rep. 10, fol. 226b.

¶ *Vide* p. 18. Also referred to in the Records of 4th September, 1539, and 15th June, 1540, pp. 21, 23.

25th October, 1541, it was no doubt enforced on that occasion. There are no further references to the Basket-makers in the City Records for a quarter of a century. The subsequent entry under date 8th January, 1565/6, refers to the Basket-makers *of the City*, and, no record having been found of their reinstatement, the order apparently became a dead-letter after the lapse of some few years.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMPANY.

THE only records in the Company's possession referring to the constitutional settlement of the Guild are the petition of the Basket-makers of 1569 for "rules and orders" and a transcript of the ordinances granted by the Court of Aldermen; these are found in an old parchment book* preserved from the Great Fire. The few earlier references to matters leading up to the establishment of the Company have been obtained from the City Records.

In their petition for Ordinances, the Basket-makers referred to their previous "suit," in which they had prayed that not only those of their number who were free of other Companies, but also those following the trade of basket-making who were not free of the City, might be united and made a Company to be called "the Basket-makers of the City of London." The proceedings commenced in January, 1565/6, when the Chamberlain was desired by the civic authorities to confer with the Basket-makers with a view to their being enfranchised in their

* *Vide* p. 123.

own craft. A few months later they were requested to decide whether they would be established as "a Company of themselves" or united to some other Company.

CHAMPION, MAIOR.

8 JANUARY, 8 ELIZABETH (1565).

Item yt was ordered that the Chamberlyn shall soñon and confer wth the Basketmakers of this Cytie now beyenge fremen of the same Cytie and lerne and understande of them whether they will become freemen of the same Cytie or not and what they will geve for the fredome thereof and make reporte unto this Court for their answers and mynds therein wth convenyent spede.*

The question put to the Basket-makers who were free of the City, "whether they will become freemen of the City," appears somewhat obscure in the above record. The explanation is, that the free Basket-makers alluded to were members of existing Companies † and were to be asked whether they wished to become free of a new Company of their own. In the following extract it will be noted that the English Basket-makers, who were not free of the City, were also consulted on the question of the establishment of the Company.

CHAMPION, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 13 JUNE, 8 ELIZABETH (1566).

Item M^r Avenon and M^r Chamberlyn Aldermen and the Chamberlyn were this day assigned by the Court here to

* Rep. 15, fol. 513b.

† Chiefly of the Butchers' Company.

travayle wth the englishe * Basketmakers of this Citie not being fre of the Citie and lerne whether they will desire rather to be a companye of theym selves or els be united to some other Companye And what Companie that is And to make report thereof here wth convenyent spede.†

At this period a few English Basket-makers were exercising their trade in the City, although not free thereof; this privilege is mentioned in the record of the 23rd September, 1539,‡ on which occasion they petitioned the Court of Aldermen for "licence to occupy as they did before." It cannot be ascertained when the civic authorities first made the above concession to the English Basket-makers. Probably this old privilege gave rise to the claim that the Company had previously existed by prescription or ancient right.§

CHAMPION, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER, 8 ELIZABETH (1566).

Item the wardens of the Bochers have the next court daye to make pleyē & certen report whether theyr hole company wyll assent and agree to have all suche Basket-makers as are now free of their sayd company to be taken by this court from theym and to be unyted and incorporated to the other basketmakers of this cytye beinge erected and made by autoryte of this co^rte a company and felowshipp of themselves or not.||

* At this period several alien Basket-makers were established in the City.

† Rep. 16, fol. 60b.

‡ *Vide* p. 21.

§ *Vide* pp. 96, 101.

|| Rep. 16, fol. 106.

CHAMPION, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER, 8 ELIZABETH (1566).

Item the wardens of the company of the bochers of this Cytie dyd this day make their reporte here to the court accordinge to the order of the same court here taken 19 instat Sept^r that both they and their sayd hole company are well contentyd and pleased to depte w^t all the basketmakers beinge ffree of there sayd company so that they the sayd basketmakers be hereafter erected unyted and made a p^rvate and distinct company of them selfs by the name of basketmakers, or els the sayd Wardeyns desyryd that they the sayd basketmakers may be holye restoryd and unyted ageyne to them the sayd company of the bochers in case they shall eyther not be made a company of theym selfs or ells shall fortune shortly to be dyssolvdyd agayne and not to remayne a company of them selfs w^{ch} was g^aunted to the seid wardens or cause to be redelyvered.*

DRAPER, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER, 9 ELIZABETH (1566).

Item it was this day ordered by the Court here that the Towne clerk wth the advise of som of the lerned Councell of the Cytie shall devise and draw a boke agaynst the next courte here to be holden after Xristmas next for the corpora^cõn and unytyng of the fremen of this Cytie and other Englishmen also Basketmakers into a felowshipe or companye of this Cytie by my Lord Mayer and Court of Aldermen in such sort as dy^vs other of the same Cytie ar alredy incorporated.†

DRAPER, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 13 MARCH, 9 ELIZABETH (156⁶₇).

Att this cort M^r Alderⁿ Ducket was assigned to joine w^t M^r Ald Avenon and the Chamberleyn for the

* Rep. 16, fol. 112b ; Letter Book V. fol. 49b. *Vide* pp. 49, 50.

† Rep. 16, fol. 149b ; Letter Book V. fol. 68b.

incorporatinge of the englishe basketmakers of this citie and the towne clerke appointed to attend upon them as he conveniently maye.*

ROWE, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 3RD MAY, II ELIZABETH (1569).

The matter betwene the Tournors and Basketmakers is referred to the hearing and examynacon of M^r Alderman Avenon and M^r Aldrān Barneham & M^r Chamberleyn and they to make report.†

Waller, in his "General Description of all Trades," written in 1747,‡ tells us that the Basketmakers' wares were largely sold in the Turners' shops and that the Turners were the principal dealers in baskets after the makers. This practice being no doubt of old standing, it is possible that the "matter" referred to in the above extract related to some objection raised by the Turners in connection with the establishment of the Company. No further reference to the subject has been found in the City Records.

ROWE, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 26 JULY, II ELIZABETH (1569).

Itm̄ this daye it is thought mete and convenient by this courte that the basketmakers of this Citie shalbe incorporated and made a companye and have etaine ordnances devised by this house for there govnment and it is agreed that a certain nomber that nowe use makinge of basketts shalbe made free and paye suche fynes as M^r Chambleyn

* Rep. 16, fol. 176.

† Rep. 16, fol. 471b.

‡ *Vide* Appendix A.

shall take order wth them for and M^r Chambleyn shall travell wth them betwene this and the nexte courte and then to make reporte to this courte what he hath don therein.*

ROWE, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 28 JULY, II ELIZABETH (1569).

This daye S^r Willm Chester knight M^r Alderman Nicholas and M^r Chambleyn are appointed to conferre upon good ordnnces towching the basketmakers that are nowe to be incorporated.†

ROWE, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 1st SEPTEMBER, II ELIZABETH (1569).

At this courte the boke devysed for the incorporaçon of the Basketmakers of this Cytie was redd & repulsed & misleked as it is nowe penned and redelived to my L Mayors owne hands.‡

ROWE, MAIOR.

22 SEPTEMBER, II ELIZABETH (1569).

This daye it is agreed that the booke of the incorporaçon of the basketmakers in sorte as nowe it is shall passe under suche ordnnces & condiçons as are therein conteyned and agreed the same to be entreed as followeth :

To the right honorable Sir Thomas Rowe Knight, Lord Maior of the Cittie of London And to the right wor^{ll} bretheren thaldreñ of the same.

Most humblie beseechen yo^r good Lord^{pp} yo^r dayli Orators A. B. C. D. &c. Basketmakers of the Cittie of London the Queenes Ma^{ties} naturall lovinge and obedient

* Rep. 16, fol. 492b; Letter Book V. fol. 246.

† Rep. 16, fol. 493.

‡ Rep. 16, fol. 495b.

Subiecte borne within this her highenes Realme of England. That where aswell yo^r said Orators as diverse other Strangers and Aliens borne out of this Realme have not onelie within this honorable Cittie, but also in diverse other places of this Realme of longe tyme used thoccupa^õn and Crafte of Basketmakinge. And forasmuche as before this tyme noe lawe ne good orders have been had or devised for good wares or stuffe to be had and made in the same crafte and occupa^õn ne yet any provision or poinshm^t have been devised to meete with deceipte excepte in of late both in sleighte makinge of the said wares aswell in this Cittie as in the Countrie. And in evill and unseasonable stuffe wherewithall the same wares have been made the utter ruine and decay of good workmanship in the same Craft hath thereby ensewed and is daylie more and more like to ensew and followe unless speedie remedie therefore mighte be had and provided. Yo^r said poore beeseechers therefore much Lamentinge the same and willinge asmuch as in them lyeth the redresse thereof not knoweing of themselves how to do the same without the ayde and helpe of yo^r good Lo^p and Maistershippes have latelie been most humble Suito^s to this hono^{ble} Courte for thāmendment of those evils and mischiefs In avoydyng whereof it hath pleased the same upon the humble suite of yo^r said Orators to grante not onelie that divers of yo^r said Orators usinge the said Crafte and Occupa^õn within this Cittie beinge alreadie ffree of other Companies of the same but also diverse others of them beinge not free of the said Cittie usinge notwithstandinge the same crafte and occupacion of Basketmakinge within the said Cittie and Liberties thereof should be transferred and made free all of one Crafte Companie and ffellowshipp called the Basketmakers of the Cittie of London to the ende that by some good rules and orders to be had and devised by this hono^{ble} Courte to be observed and kept amonge them in the same Crafte and Companie better wares and stuffe hereafter might be had and made for the service of the Queens highnes Subjects within this hono^{ble} Cittie, and so

consequentlie by the good example thereof in other places of the Realme. May it therefore please yo^r said Lo^p and Masterships for the amendment of those enormities and for the better service of the Co^mon Weale in that behalfe and for the more better good rule and government hereafter to be had in the same crafte and occupa^cõn to grannte and establish these Articles underwritten in the same Companie to be firmlie observed and kepte for ever upon the paines in the same Articles comprized. And yo^r said Beseechers according to their most bounden Duties shall daylie pray to Almightye God for the Long Continuance of yo^r said Lo^p and Mastershipps in honor and worshipp.

Anno 1569.

(1) **FIRSTE** that men enfranchised in the said crafte and occupacon of Basketmakers of the Cittie of London for the tyme beinge Maye lawfullie hereafter once in everie two years Betweene the feaste of St James and St Barthũe the Appostles, assemble themselves togeather in a place to them necessarie and convenient within the said Cittie, and there to chuse and electe of themselves two hable menn free of the said crafte for the space of two whole yeares then next followinge. And the same twoe Wardens, soe chosen, within eighte days then next following there said elecon, shalle be sworn in the Courte to be holden in the utter * Chamber of the Guildhall, before the Lorde Maior and Aldren of the same Cittie, for the tyme being, trewlie to doo and execute such things as shall appertaine and belonge unto their office, according to the good rules and ordennce to them to be allowed and approved by the same Courte like as the usage and custome is within the said Cittie, that the Wardens of other Companies doe upon pain of v^l, thone halfe thereof to be applied to thuse of the Chamber of the said Cittie, And that other halfe to the Co^mon boxe of the poore within the house of

* *i.e.* outer.

Christchurch And that if the same Wardens, being thus elected and sworn, or either of them, happen to die within the same two yeares that they should stande Wardens, that then the good men enfranchised in the saide crafte may choose one or two others of the same crafte to supplie and serve in the steade and place of him or them so deceased, for the residue of the said two yeares.

(2) ITEM that within one moneth next after the chosinge of the new Wardens, at thend of everie two yeares in forme aforesaid, the oulde Wardens which occupied and stooode in thoffice the two yeres then next preceedinge, shall make and yelde upp their accompte unto the Wardens then chosen, and to three or fower other persones of the said crafte such as the said new Wardens shall appointe, and shall trulie answer, paye, and deliver unto the said new Wardens to the use of the same Companie all that which shalbe founde to remayne in their handes by that Accompte uppon paine of v^l, thone halfe thereof to be paid to the Chamber of the said Cittie And that other halfe to the Comon boxe of the said Crafte. And if the said Accompte be behinde, and not given upp and payment not made as is aforesaide, longer than one moneth, then the oulde Wardens soe faylinge of giving upp of their accompte, and making of payment accordinglie, without they have a reasonable excuse, shall pay for everie moneth, soe longe as their said accompte is not given upp after the chosing of the said new Wardens, and after the end of the first moneth, xl^s, to be devided & ymployed in forme aforesaid.

(3) ALSOE that all persones enfranchised in the said crafte and occupaçon for the tyme being, at all tymes hereafter shall make good, stronge, and perfecte wares, belonging to the said crafte, well and workemanlike, wroughte with good and seasonable stuffe, without deceipte, uppon paine of forfeiture of the same wares to thuse of the Coñaltie of the said Cittie.

(4) ITEM that noe persone of the said crafte enfranchised within the said Cittie, shall at any tyme hereafter, buy any wares belonging to the same crafte in the Countrie

alreadie made, nor any stuffe unwroughte, to make such ware withall, but such as shalle be good and lawfull wares strong and well wroughte, and good and seasonable stuffe, cutt and gathered in due season, uppon paine of forfeiture of the same to be imployed, thone halfe to the chamber of London, and thother halfe, to the comon boxe of the same crafte.

(5) ITEM that none enfranchised in the said crafte shall hereafter buy any white roddes, to be occupied and made into wares belonging to the same crafte, excepte they be well seasoned, uppon pain of forfeiture of the same roddes, or the value thereof, thone halfe thereof to the use of the Chamber of London, and thother halfe to the Comon boxe of that fellowship.

(6) ITEM that noe persone, free of the said Companie, at any tyme hereafter, shall buye any roddes to be spente or made into wares belonging to the same crafte Except the same roddes be of good and lawfull bonde That is to saye, everie boundell of those roddes to have bonde of one yarde and one inch of compasse, to be well and faste bounde at leastwaies one foote from the greater ende of the saide roddes, uppon paine of forfeiture of all that stuffe to the uses aforesaid.

(7) ITEM that the Wardens of the said crafte and occupacon for the tyme being, having an Officer of my Lord Maiors with them, shall have full power at all tymes hereafter, to enter into the houses, warehouses, and shopps of all and singular persones whatsoever as well enfranchised in the said crafte of Basketmakers as not enfranchised, which at any tyme hereafter shall make or put to sale, within the said Cittie, suburbes, or libties thereof, any manner of wares belonging to the said crafte And to serche, viewe, and oversee all manner of basketts, fflasketts, Scrynes, Mawndes, and all other wares and stuffe, belonging to the said crafte of Basketmakers, aswell suche as shalle be broughte by forraine Basketmakers into the said Cittie or suburbes of the same for to be soulded, as such as shalbe made or put to sale by ffreemen of the same

craftes or by any other forraine or ffreeman of the same Cittie, within the said Cittie or suburbes thereof And all such wares and stuffe as they shall finde unlawfull, not well workmanlike, and stronglie made, and wroughte with good and seasonable stuffe, then they to forfeite the same And to bringe it to the Chamber of this Cittie at all tymes hereafter when the case shall require, as forfeite to the use of the Coĩaltie of the said Cittie.

(8) ALSOE that the Wardens of the said craftes for the tyme being, and the Coĩaltie of the same craftes, may have thuse and ordeine one or two meete persones of their said craftes to be their clark and Beadell for their Coen officers, to make summons in the name of there Wardens for the tyme beinge, and to execute other their lawfull precepts and commandments, as the case shall require. The same Clarke or Bedell to have such sallarie and wages as the said Wardens and Comynaltie for the tyme beinge shall accorde and agree amonge themselves, to be given and allowed unto the said Clarke or Bedell, quarterlie everie yeare. And that it shalle be lawfull for the said Wardens for the tyme beinge, to levie, collect, and receive of the ffreemen enfranchised in the said Companie, a certaine competent sum of money by the Comynaltie of the same companie agreed uppon, by the name of quarteridge, towards the charges of the same Companie, like as in other Companies of this Cittie is used So that the same quarteridge excede not viij^d a quarter for aney one persone.

(9) ALSOE that as often as any persone of the said craftes, hereafter shalbe deulie sumoned by the Clarke or Beadle of the said Craftes to appere before the Wardens of the said Craftes for the tyme being, at a certaine hower assigned, and appeareth not at the same hower appointed, or nere uppon, according to his summons That the said persone soe summoned, making defaulte, shall (unless hee have some reasonable excuse) paye to the Coen boxe of the said craftes iij^d And if hee be the second tyme warned, and come not within one whole hower next after the said

second warninge (without a reasonable excuse) then to pay viij^d to the said coen boxe, at the will and discrecon of the said Wardens for the tyme beinge.

(10) ALSOE that if any persone of the said crafte and fellowship being an housholder, at any tyme hereafter, rebuke, chide or brawle with any other persone being an housholder of the same crafte, that then the same persone so offendinge, shall pay to the Chamber of the Guildhall and to the Comon boxe of the said Crafte equallie to be devided, vj^s viij^d And if any servaunte or appntice of the same crafte offend or trespasse in such wise unto any housholder of the same crafte, that then the same servante or appntice shalbe poinshed by the order and discrecon of the Wardens of the said Companie for the tyme beinge.

(11) ALSO if it fortune that any persone enfranchised of the said crafte which shall happen to forfeite any some or somes of money, or any other things in theise orders or any of them comprised And then the same persone will not obey to pay the same money wthin three tymes askinge, if hee be of power That then the same persone for a pain in that behalfe shall paie the doble of the same money And if then he will not submitt himselfe to paye that, and be reasonablie ordered by his said Wardens Then the Wardens and Coĩaltie of the said crafte shall complayne to the Lord Maior, or the chamblin for the tyme being And the persone so offending to be punnished after the discrecõ of the Lord Mayor and Courte of Aldren or Chamberlaine.

(12) ALSOE that everie persone enfranchised of the said crafte or occupaçõ within a yere after he taketh unto him any apprentice, shall ßsente the same apprentice unto the Wardens of the said crafte for the tyme being And shall then pay unto the comon boxe of the same crafte for everie such appntice xij^d And that none of the said crafte shall at any time hereafter, take any appntice for noe shorter or lesser terme then that the same appntice coming out of his yeres shalbe fullie xxiiij yeres of age at thende of his said term And also that at thende of the

terme of appnticehood of everie such appntice, the same appntice if hee hath trulie served his terme shalbe made free by his said M^r at the charge of his said M^r And that everie such appntice, or hee be admitted into the franchises of the said Cittie, shalbe presented againe unto the said Wardens of the said crafte for the tyme being And there afore them shalbe sworn uppon the holie Evangelists of God to be contributorie to all manner of charges that shall belonge to the coialtie of the said crafte of Basketmakers to his power. And that hee shall not put himselfe in service to occupie the said Crafte with any persone or to teache thoccupacon, but onlie to such as shalbe enfranchised in the Crafte above named, without the Wardens of the said Crafte for the tyme being give him leve, as longe as they will give him reasonable wages and put him on worke in the same Crafte, uppon paine of ymprisonement by the appointment of the Wardens and such further fyne as by the discrecon of the Lorde Maior, shalbe thought meate to be imployed as is afoesaide.

(13) ALSOE that noe persone enfranchised of the said crafte of Basketmakers, shall take uppon him in any wise hereafter, to hier or take the house or shop of any other persone enfranchised of the same crafte, over his heade by any manner of meanes privlie or appertlie, uppon payne of v^l, to be paied thone halfe to the use of the Chamber of the Cittie of London and the other halfe to the Comon boxe of the same crafte.

(14) ALSOE that noe Appntice which is, or hereafter shall happen to be bounde to any persone free of the said Crafte of Basketmakers, in any wise hereafter, be assigned, comitted, or suffered to serve any parte of the terme of his appnticehoode with any persone, but onelie with such as have been enfranchised of the said crafte of Basketmakers, soe always the same Wardens doe appoint him within one moneth after, a good sufficient Master to serve out the residue of his terme within that Companie, or else hee to be at libertie.

(15) ITEM that no persone enfranchised in the said

craftes shall have or keepe at any tyme hereafter, above the number of fouer appntics, uppon paine to forfeite and paye for everie Appntice that hee or they shall have or keepe contrarie to this order xx^s, to be imployed as before is said, thone halfe to the Chamber of London, and thother halfe to the Comon boxe of the said Companie And yet neverthelesse, the persone so offending shall loose and forgoe his said Appntice, which said Appntice, shalbe sett over by the Wardens for the tyme beinge to some other apte persone of that Companie, to serve out his appnticehoode And that noe persone enfranchised in the said Crafte shall have and keepe any Appntice, unlesse the same Maister be hable sufficientlie to teache and instructe the same Appntice in that arte and crafte, or doe cause the same Appntice to be sufficientlie taught and instructed by such other enfranchised in the same crafte, as shalbe experte and cunninge in the same crafte, uppon the like paine to be imployed (as is aforesaid).

(16) ALSOE that if any persone free of the said Crafte or any forrein using the same Crafte, doe at any time hereafter, beare, send, or carrie any wares belonginge to the same Crafte, on hawking to sell, by the Streetes or Lanes within this Cittie or Suburbes of the same Then the person soe doing, at everie tyme, and as often as he shalbe found in such defaulte, shall forfeite the ware soe taken And yf he be enfranchised of the Cittie, to pay vj^s viij^d for a ffyne, the one halfe thereof shalbe to the Cominaltie of this Cittie and that other halfe to the Comon boxe of the same Crafte.

(17) ITEM forasmuche as at this p̄sent tyme, the goodmen of the same Crafte that be now enfranchized, are not able ne of themselves yet can serve this honorable Cittie with wares belonging to the same Crafte, unles they may have fforreins and Alyens to worke with them for a tyme, untill a convenient number of their own Appntices, hereafter to be bounde according to the Custome of the Cittie, shall and may be broughte up, taughte and enstructed sufficientlie to serve in the same Crafte And for that it

shalbe expedient, that such fforreins and straungers as have wroughte with persons of the same Companie before they were enfranchised, should be sett on worke and provided for It is by the Lord Maior and Thaldermen now being, dispensed that everie person now enfranchised in the same Crafte, att all times heereafter, during the space of ffive yeeres now next ensewing, and noe longer, shall and may have and keepe such fforren Appntices as they now have, and such other fforreins or Aliens, or Jorney-men, Cunning and expert in the said Crafte as they will, at their own free will and pleasure, for the said space of five yeeres, yf such person or psons cannot have ffree men of the said Companie to serve him or them.

(18) ALSOE that no person enfranchized in the said Crafte, take upon him to sett aworke or receive into his service, any man enfraunchized of any other Crafte, or any fforrein or Alyen, to worke in the same Crafte of Baskettmakers, within this Cittie, suburbes, or Liberties thereof, without the same ffreeman, fforreign, or Alyen, be firste examined, approoved, and understood by the Wardens of the said Crafte of Baskettmakers for the time being, for a conning workeman, upon paine of xx^s, to be devided in forme aforesaid And that noe person of the said Companie, shall hereafter sett any fforreign or Alyen on worke in the said Crafte, so long as he or they may have any ffreeman of the said Crafte to worke with him or them for a reasonable wages and entertainment, upon the like paine of xx^s, to be devided as aforesaid.

(19) ITEM that such fforreigns, Alyens, and strangers, baskettmakers now inhabiting within the Cittie of London Liberties and suburbes thereof, and all and everie other fforreins, Aliens, and strangers, Baskettmakers, which at any time hereafter may or shalbe upon some cause or consideraçon, tollerated and suffred by the Lord Maior and Aldermen of the said Cittie for the tyme being, to occupie the same Crafte or occupaçon of Baskettmaking, within the said Cittie, Liberties and suburbes thereof, shalbe allwaies under the search and goverment of the said

Wardens of the said Crafte and occupaçon for the tyme being And shall paye quarteridge unto the said Companie, as the ffreemen of the same crafte and occupaçon doe.

(20) ALSOE that if at aney time within the terme that any Wardens of the said Crafte for the time being, shall stand and occupie that roome, it can be dylie proved that the same Wardens doe not endeavour themselves, as much as in them is, according to their oathes and dutie, to make due search yf any unlawfull wares and unseasonable stuffe be had, made, or putt to sale within this Cittie And also doe not observe to their power, the rules and Ordinñces in this Booke specified, and do not cause these Ordinñces to be read fflowre times of the yeere, in some convenient place to the Cominaltie of the said Companie. That then the said Wardens to make a ffine for their Lasches and negligence in that behalfe, ffive markes, the one halfe thereof to be to the use of the Chamber aforesaid, and the other halfe to the Coñon box of the said Crafte—Finis.

Itm̄ it is agreed that these men whose names hereafter followe shalbe made free of this Citie of the companye of basketmakers and they to pay evie one as foloweth viz : Thomas Robinson ii^{li} v^{s} vii^{d} whereof to paye in hand $xxxi^{\text{s}}$ iii^{d} and the rest at [].* Angell Gyles ii^{li} v^{s} vii^{d} whereof in hand xx^{s} and the rest v^{s} a quarter, Christofer Johnson ii^{li} v^{s} vii^{d} whereof in hande v^{s} vii^{d} the rest by v^{s} a quarter, Nicholas Prickleve ii^{li} v^{s} vii^{d} in hande xxv^{s} vii^{d} the rest by v^{s} vii^{d} a quarter, John Johnson ii^{li} v^{s} vii^{d} in hand v^{s} vii^{d} the rest by v^{s} vii^{d} a quarter, Laurence Adams v^{li} in hand x^{s} the rest by v^{s} a quarter, Cornelius Adrian ii^{li} v^{s} vii^{d} in hand v^{s} vii^{d} and the rest by v^{s} vii^{d} a quarter, Andrew Banberye x^{li} Adrian Adrian x^{li} Richarde Robinson v^{li} and John Johnson v^{li} whereof in hand l^{s} & l^{s} at Barthewe tyde next.†

* Blank in the original.

† (Rep. 16, fols. 498b–502; Letter Book V. fols. 252–254.) These ordinances are transcribed (with the exception of the last item referring to payments) from a MS. in the Company's possession, *vide* pp. 123, 124.

Sixteen years after the foregoing ordinances were granted to the Company, some trouble appears to have arisen respecting the employment of non-freemen. The matter having been brought before the notice of the Court of Aldermen and the complaint investigated, further rules were made on the 18th January, 1585. The extracts from the City Records leading up to the grant and the second set of Ordinances allowed, are here set forth :—

DIXIE, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER, 28 ELIZABETH (1585).

Itm yt ys orderyd that M^r Buckell and M^r Byllingesley Aldren shall aswell hear and examine the cause complained uppon to ys Co^rte by dyvers of the Companye of Basketmakers agaynste Ch^rofer Johnson,* Basketmaker for settinge two forreyns on worke, as allso to take order agaynst settinge forreyns on worke heareafter by any of that Companye And to make reporte unto this Co^rte of theyre doinge thearein wth all convenient speede.†

Martis Decimo Octavo die Januarii 1585 Annoꝝ Vicesimo octavo Dñi nři Eliz : Regina &c.

DIXIE MAIOR, Recorder, Hayward, Osborne, Pullison, Starkye, Bond, Martin, Calthorpe, Woodcock, Buckell, Slaine, Billingsley.

THIS day M^r Buckell and M^r Billingsley Aldren, to whome the examinacon of the cawse touching the Basketmakers of this Cittie was heretofore referred by this Courte did make their reporte in writing to the same

* One of the eleven Basket-makers enrolled in 1569, *vide* p. 41.

† Rep. 21, fol. 248b.

Courte of their opinions therein the Tenor whereof hereafter enseweth in their words viz:—

Decimo Octavo die Januarii 1585.

FIRST That it may be lawfull for us to keepe in worke all those fforreins and strangers that we now have, and from henceforth noe mor to be received into worke into this Cittie, wth any enfranchised in the said Crafte, whose names hereafter ensue.

fforrein Basketmakers their names.*

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| ffather Mude | Thomas Newbery |
| Goodman Hubberd | ffraunces Cockman |
| George Parker | Gryffyn Tracey |
| John Saunds | Noye Luther |
| Henry Arnold | Symon Huggyns |
| Willm Richardson | Jerome Lidgingham |
| Richard Miles | Charles Wheatley |
| John Reyrson | Willm Hearne |
| Robert Tanner | ffraunces Dodman |
| Cornelius Nicholas | Simon Carter |
| Garrett Johnson | Thomas Gladen |
| Robert Wylde | George Cole |
| John Brounckhurst | Thomas Wilson |
| Peter ffreyre | Hary Owyn |
| John Eastercrigg | |

THE SECOND that yf any of those fforreins or strangers which we now have, shall at any tyme hereafter goe into the Countrey to worke in the said Crafte, as long as they may have worke heere, shall loose their privedge and be noe more sett on worke within the Cittie in the said Crafte And whosoever enfranchized in the said Crafte presuminge to sett any such fforreins or Strangers on worke shall have the penaltie of the Lawe.

ITEM that noe man enfranchized as aforesaid, shall

* This list includes English "foreigners" as well as aliens.

hereafter go about to entice or inveagle any other mans servant from him, by giving or offering any money, called drinking money, or by lending any money, giving or offring greater wages than usuall wages. And that noe man enfranchized as aforesaid, shall receive into his service any Journeyman without the consent of the Wardens of the said Companie, and fflower of the assistants be thereunto had upon paine.

ITEM that it may be lawfull for those that have biene Wardens of the Companie of the said Crafte to keepe five Appntices a piece.

ITEM that noe man enfranchized in the said Companie, being a Journeyman, as long as he shall worke Journeyworke, shall take or keepe any Appntice without the Wardens consente and ffowre of the Assistants.

Cuthbert Buckell, Ald^r.

Henry Billinglie, Ald^r.

WHICH Report was verie well liked and allowed of by the same Court and thereupon ordered that the same shalbe entred into the Reportorie and observed in all points.*

Sebright.

The following entries appear in the City Records some few years after the grant of the preceding Ordinances, namely:—

MARTYN, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER, 36 ELIZABETH (1594).

Item yt is ordred that M^r Chambllyn and M^r Towneclerke shall have consideraçon of the petycon exhibited to this co^rte by the Company of the Basketmakers And to make reporte to this Co^rte of their opinyons therein.†

* Transcribed (with the exception of the names of the foreign Basket-makers) from a MS. in the Company's possession, *vide* pp. 123, 124 (Rep. 21, fol. 254; Letter Book K. fol. 78).

† Rep. 23, fol. 303.

RIDER, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER, 43 ELIZABETH (1600).

Item yt is ordred that M^r Lowe M^r Watts & M^r Hampson Aldreñ or anye two of them shall heare & examyn the cause in Contraversye between the M^r and Wardens of the Companye of Baskettmakers and some of the yonge men of that Companye And to ende the same or make reporte to this Co^rte of their opinions therein.*

No further allusion to the "petition" of 1594, mentioned above, has been found. The following record of 1610 possibly had reference to the "cause in contraversye" between the "Wardens and the young men," in the year 1600, since it deals with a complaint of the journeymen that the masters did not find them work and that they purchased baskets of foreign manufacture:—

CAMBELL, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 1 FEBRUARY, 7 JAMES I. (16¹⁰/₁₁).

This day the causes containd in the petiçon preferred to this Courte by the Journeymen being ffreemen of the Company of Basketmakers of this Cyttye against the M^{rs} of the said Company for not setting them on worke and buying their wares of fforrayne Basketmakers are referred to the hearing and examynation of M^r Bolles and M^r ffarrington Aldermen And they to end the same or make reporte to this Courte in writing under their hands of their opynions touching the same.†

The petition was considered and the third

* Rep. 25, fol. 181b.

† Rep. 29, fol. 169.

and final Ordinances granted by the Court of Aldermen :—

Martis Vicesimo Septiño die Martii 1610 Annoꝝ Regni Regis Jacobi Angliæ &c. Octavo et Scosie Quadragesimo Tertio.

CAMBELL MAIOR, Garrard, Bennett, Watts, Rowe, Craven, Pemberton, Swinarton, Romeny, Hayes, Elwes, Stile, Bolles, ffarington et Harvey et Cockaine Vicecom̃

ITEM this day M^r Bolles and M^r ffarington Aldermen presented unto this Courte a Reporte in writing under their hands the teno^r whereof followeth in their wordes viz :

To the right hono^{ble} S^r Thomas Campbell Knight Lord Maior of the Cittie of London and his right worth Bretheren the Aldreñ of the same.

WHEREAS at a Courte holden the ffirst day of ffebruarie last past, the cawses contained in the petiton preferred to this Courte by the jorneymen being ffremen of the Companie of Baskettmakers of this Cittie, against the masters of the said Companie for not setting them on worke, and for buying their wares on forrein Baskettmakers, were referred to the hearing and examinacon of us whose names are subscribed, and we to end the same or certifie this Courte in writing under o^r hands, of o^r opinions therein as by the same reference may appeare.

WEE therefore, having (in performance thereof) called before us Robert Brackin and Robert Mounte now Wardens of the said Companie, Clement Holmes, Adrian Adrianson, William Addersburrie, William Wheatelie, Thomas Oliffe and John Clarke now Assistants, and heretofore Wardens of the said Companie And likewise John Johnson, John Carder, and John West, and about Twentie more being jorneymen and ffremen of the said companie, and deliberatelie heard the parties of both sides, have for a quiett and peaceable end between them, and by the mutuall and free Consent of all parties resolved and

thought fitting (so it stand with the pleasure and good liking of this Court) that these Orders following by us conceived, may by this Courte be confirmed and established that is to say,

IMPRIMIS that no ffreeman of this Cittie using the trade of Baskettmaking or Baskettselling, shall at any time hereafter, buy any manner of made wares of any fforreiner, usinge the same trade, but such sortes of made wares as of ancient tymes, have beene accustomed to be bought of Forreiners, viz: Covered Basketts, fflasketts, stake mawnds, and tymber ware, upon paine to forfeit, for everie tyme wherein any such ffreeman shall offend to the contrarie, Twenty Shillings, to the use of the poore of the said Companie of Baskettmakers.

ITEM that if any person or psons beinge ffree of the said Companie of Baskettmakers, and dwelling without this Cittie or the Liberties thereof, shall at any time hereafter bring any made wares belonging to the trade of Baskettmaking, to this Cittie or Liberties thereof to be sold That then it shall, and may be lawfull to, and for the Wardens of the said Companie for the time being, at their discreçons to buy such made wares, or to appoint such other person or persons to buy the same as they shall thinke good; w^{ch} wares so bought, shalbe by them distributed indifferentlie amongst the rest of the ffreemen of the said Companie, according to their particular necessities.

WHICH Orders aswell the said Wardens and Assistants as the said Jorneymen doe most humblie desire yo^r Lo^{pp} and Worp^s may (for the better government of the said Companie and the reliefe of the porer sorte being jorney-men and wanting worke) be by this Courte confirmed and established w^{ch} we leave to the grave Consideraçon of yo^r Lo^{pp} and wor^{ps}.

George Bolles.

Richard Farrington.

The which Reporte beeing heere openlie read was well

liked and allowed of and thereupon ordered that the same shalbe entred into the Reportorie and observed in all points accordinglie.*

Sebright.

* Transcribed from a MS. in the Company's possession, *vide* pp. 123, 124 (Rep. 29, fol. 199).

TRANSLATIONS AND ADMISSIONS BY ORDER OF THE COURT OF ALDERMEN

THE following extracts from the City Records refer to the "translation" of Basket-makers free of other Companies, and the admission of persons to the freedom of the Basket-makers' Company by authority of the Court of Aldermen.

The translation of those Basket-makers who were free of the Butchers' Company at the time of the recognition of the former, came before the Court of Aldermen on the 19th September, 1566,* the Butchers assenting to the transfer on the 26th of the same month.† The matter was again brought forward and finally settled after the establishment of the Basket-makers' Company:—

AVENON, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER, II ELIZABETH (1569).

At this courte it was ordered that the wardens of the bochers shalbe warned to be here the nexte courte daie for there assents to be geven for the transferringe of di^vs of there company usinge the basketmakers occupa^con to the felowship and companye of the basketmakers of this Citie latelie established and made by this courte.‡

* *Vide* p. 28.

† *Vide* p. 29.

‡ Rep. 16, fol. 514.

AVENON, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER, 12 ELIZABETH (1569).

Itm̄ the Wardens of the weavers did this daye agree & assent that Robert Sale and Richard Poll beinge free of there company & usinge the arte & occupacon of Basket-makinge shalbe transferred & sett over from them to the felowshipp of the Basketmakers latelye erected.*

AVENON, MAIOR.

THURSDAY 12 JANUARY, 12 ELIZABETH (15⁶⁹/₇₀).

At this courte John Owtinge m^r of the company of the Carpenters declared unto the same courte in the name of his hole companye aforesaid that they all were well pleased contented and assentinge that John Olyff† beinge free of there saide companye and usinge tharte and occupacon of basketmakinge shall be translated from theim and made ffree of the ffellowship of the Basketmakers And it was thereupon ordred and agreed by the said Courte that the Chamberleyn of this Citie and his Successors Chamblayns for the tyme beinge shall truely and indifferentlie for the reasonable benefitt of the Citie use his and there good discrecons for the taxacon & assessm^t of the fyne bothe of the saide Olyf and of all others of other occupacons hereafter to be translated to the saide felowship of Basketmakers.‡

AVENON, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER, 12 ELIZABETH (1570).

Itm̄ the wardens of the bochers here beinge pñte did assent & agree that all those psons of there companye that use the arte and occupacon of makinge of basketts &

* Rep. 16, fol. 517b.

† *Vide* p. 17.

‡ Rep. 16, fol. 523b; Letter Book V. fol. 272b.

there appntices & not there occupacon shalbe taken transferred and sett o^r from them to the felowship of the basketmakers of this Citie latelie newelie erected by this courte.*

LOWE, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 23RD JULY, 3 JAMES I. (1605).

Item the cause complained of to this Court by the Companie of Basketmakers is referred to the examinacon of S^r Robert Lee and S^r John Watts knights, and they to end the same or make report thereof to this Court.

Item whereas W^m Saunders was bound Apprentice to John Powell Basketmaker for seaven yeares and inrolled, and served him not above sixe yeares, and afterwards indirectlye procured his freedome by patrimonye in the Companie of Turnors. It is ordered adiudged and decreed by this Court That the sayd William Saunders shalbee disfranchised from the sayd Companie of Turnors, and afterwards to be translated to the sayd Companie of Basketmakers by the consent and agreement of the M^r and Wardens of bothe the sayd Companies.†

HOARE, MAYOR.

TUESDAY 3 JUNE, II ANNE (1712).

This day M^r Water Bailiffe presented unto this Court William Freeman to be made Free of this City as the First of Two granted unto him the Twentieth of November last to Reimburse him his Charges for providing Coats and Caps for the Citys Watermen on Lord Mayors Day last, It is Ordered That the said William Freeman shall be admitted into the Freedom of this City by Redemption in the Company of Basketmakers paying to M^r Chamberlain for the City's use the sum of Forty six shillings and eight pence.‡

* Rep. 16, fol. 516b.

† Rep. 27, fols. 56, 56b.

‡ Rep. 116, fol. 214.

The only reference in the Company's books to the preceding admission, is the following :—

July 7th, 1712.

| | | | |
|---|---|----|----|
| | £ | s. | d. |
| William ffreeman was made ffree & paid by | | | |
| purchase or Redempcōn | 1 | 0 | 0 |

Other extracts from the Company's books recording a "translation" and admissions by order of the Court of Aldermen are here given :—

27th April, 1672.

Ordered that the Wardens may translate Joshua Green to the Ventners not taking lesse then ffive pounds and what more they cane.

16th October, 1724.

| | | | |
|---|---|----|----|
| | £ | s. | d. |
| William Shephard was this day made free of | | | |
| this Company by Redemption by virtue of | | | |
| an Order of the Court of Aldermen dated | | | |
| 13th of this instant October and paid | 1 | 0 | 0 |

10th October, 1726.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Simon Pollard was this day made free by | | | |
| Redemption by Order of the Court of Alder- | | | |
| men dated 4th of October instant and paid | 1 | 0 | 0 |

8th July, 1728.

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| William Eyre was this day made free by Re- | | | |
| demption by Order of the Court of Aldermen | | | |
| dated 7th of May last and paid | 1 | 0 | 0 |

APPLICATIONS FOR A CHARTER.

AFTER the Restoration, the Basket-makers took steps to obtain a charter from the Crown. The earliest record is found in the wardens' accounts, dated the 6th May, 1664, as follows:—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|----|----|----|
| Paid the Clarke for drawing the heads of a | | | |
| Charter and his attendance about it | 00 | 10 | 00 |
| Spent at a meeting about it | 00 | 06 | 00 |

There are no further references to the above entries and it is therefore evident that the matter was not proceeded with at the time, possibly owing to the Plague of 1665 and the Great Fire in the following year.

The Company's books record at length an application made in 1682, the full text of the petition being given. This attempt to obtain a charter in the reign of Charles II. received the support of the Cane-chair Makers and was energetically proceeded with for a time, though eventually abandoned. The absence of any reference to this application in the City Records, shows that the Basket-makers did not seek the permission of the civic authorities before

presenting their petition to the Crown. Charles II.'s inattention to business may possibly have been another reason why the Court of Aldermen was in ignorance of the matter.

This solicitation for a charter is recorded in the Company's books as follows :—

December 4th, 1682.

We whose names are subscribed of London Basket-makers Considering the disadvantages we lye under in the manadging of our Trade by reason of our want of a Charter, Doe hereby unanimously agree to use our utmost endeavours for the gaining of the same. And doe hereby desire and appoint the two present Wardens Mr Adrian Peirson and Mr Jacob Chandler to call any others to their assistance, and to prosecute the same as speedily as they can And what they doe therein we doe hereby ratify and allow off. And we doe further promise That in case we be desired to subscribe any other Instrument for the prosecuting the same, that we will doe it accordingly. Witness our hands the day and yeare above written.

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Adrian Peirson | } Wardens | William ffeilder |
| Jacob Chandler | | John Johnson |
| Edmond Peirson | | John Hancocke |
| Thomas Hall | | Isaac Knight |
| Matthew Keene | | Samuel Gander |
| Anthony Watts | | Read Soane |
| Richard Reding | | Robert Aldridge |
| James Dickenson | | John Baldocke |
| Samuel Puller | | Thomas Board |
| Jacob Alcott | | James Herring |
| John ffranklin | | Thomas Walker |
| Thomas Thirtickle | | William Rime |
| John Seyford | | Edward Harper |

January 12th, 1682.*

It is this day agreed by and betweene the Society of Basketmakers and Kainers That they will joyntly act together in the obtaining of a Charter. And to that end there is to be three or foure of each Society who shall act for the rest in the doing of it. And whereas the Kainers have offered the sum of Seaventy pounds towards the same business It is accepted off And agreed That Mr ffranklin Mr Thirtickle Mr. Berrey and Mr Puller shall in the behalfe of the rest of the Kainers give Bond for the payment of the said sum by such parcellls and sums and at such times as shall be demanded. The which any two, three, or all of them may see the same expended And it is further agreed That whatsoever sum or sums shall be demanded upon the same Bond, soe much money is alsoe to be joynd therewith by the Basketmakers for the joynt bearing the charge of the said buisnesse.

John ffranklin
Thomas Thirtickle
John Berrey
John Seamour

In pursuance of which Agreement the said John ffranklin, Thomas Thirtickle, John Berrey and Isaac Puller Entered into an obligacon bearing date the two and twentieth day of January 1682, for the true payment of Three score pounds, on such dayes and times, and by such severall parcellls, as the said Wardens Adrian Pearson and Jacob Chandler should demand and require the same.

At a Court, January 22nd, 1682.

Whereas severall objections have been made about the carrying on the buisness of obtaining a Charter And one amongst the rest made by the Kainers, namely that it

* January 1st to March 25th was at this period subsequent to 31st December of the same year, *vide* note, p. 126.

will be unsafe for them to pay their money to the present Wardens unless they be assured of the care, paines, and ability of such Wardens as shall succeed them in manadging the same buisness. And this Court being satisfied with the industry of the present Wardens Mr Parson and Mr Chandler. It is therefore hereby agreed, That in case the said buisness of obtaining a Charter shall not be fully perfected by the time they should goe out of their places the next Sommer, Then we Order That they the said present Wardens shall be continued in their said place for one or two years longer, That the said buisness may be by them perfectly finished, And it is further Ordered That the present Wardens have power hereby, to call in forthwith all such money as is now out at interest due to this Company, for the carrying on the buisness aforesaid with all speed.

Witness our hands the day and yeare abovesaid.

Edmond Pearson

Matthew Keene

Anthony Watts

William ffilder

Thomas Hall

James Dickenson

Samuel Puller

John Alcott

John ffranklin

Thomas Thirtickell

John Berry

George Crane.

And the Petition following was agreed upon, and accordingly presented to his Ma^{ty} in these words.

TO THE KINGS MOST EXCELLENT MA^{TIE}.

The humble Petition of the Society of Basketmakers of the City of London.

SHEWETH :

That yo^r Petico^rs are an antient Society by vertue of certeine Rules and Constitutions unto them granted by the Lord Maior and Court of Aldermen of the said City, And by vertue thereof yo^r Petico^{rs} are impowered to search for insufficient and ill made Goods that are exposed to sale within the said City and Liberties thereof, by persons of yo^r Pet^{rs} calling And such Goods soe found, to seize

and dispose off according to Law. Which yo^r Petico^{rs} frequently doe to the great benefitt of the Citizens of the said City, and other your Ma^{ties} Subjects, And to the great charge and trouble of yo^r Petitioners.

That there are certeine persons at a distance from, and some adjacent to the said City, out of the Liberties thereof, who doe follow yo^r Peti^{rs} calling, that never serve their Apprenticeships to the same as the Statute of 5^o Eliz.* requires. Your Petitioners calling being an antient calling long before the Statute was made. And the said persons are very unskillfull in the due making the Goods belonging to your Pet^{rs} trade And doe use very ill Comodities in the making of the same. And doe sell the said Goods soe ill made, to certeine persons in the said City secretly, and to other persons in the Countrey publicly, who have occasion to use the said Goods but are unskillfull of the true value and goodnesse of the same Whereby yo^r Mat^{ies} Subjects are very much abused and deceived, and yo^r Pet^{rs} trade is thereby undermined and destroyed, who are not permitted to make such ill Goods, and therefore cannot afford their Comodities soe cheape And yo^r Pet^{rs} Apprentices discouraged to serve in their calling.

That nevertheless yo^r Pet^{rs} as their duty binds them, doe take great care to serve your Ma^{ty} with good, fitt and usefull Cannon Basketts for yo^r Ma^{ties} Stores, and when yo^r Mat^{ie} occasions in time of War doth require, doe presse, fitt and able Men out of themselves, to attend yo^r Ma^{ties} Service whilst the said unskillfull & ignorant persons doe stay at home, and abuse your Ma^{ties} Subjects as aforesaid, and doe alsoe gaine your Pet^{rs} trade & livelyhood from them In regard yo^r Pet^{rs} authority, extendeth noe further than the said City and Liberties thereof.

That yo^r Pet^{rs} living within and neare the said City of London, doe sitt at great Rents, their Goods requiring much roome for disposing of the same, and are alsoe lyable

* 5 Eliz. cap. 4.

to other great Charges in bearing offices within the said City, and in their Companies with other ffreemen thereof, which the said Straingers are not obnoxious to.

That yo^r Pet^{rs} calling is of great advantage to the Publique by improveing such Lands in planting the Comodities yo^r Pet^{rs} use in their trade, that would not otherwise afford any profit to the Proprietors.

That for the private lucre of some of the said Proprietors, they doe cutt the Rodds that grow upon the said Grounds too soone, & out of season, which are bought up and used by the said unskillfull persons who abuse your Ma^{ties} Subjects with the same, And this they doe for want of power to be graunted to some fitt and able persons, to inspect & prevent the same by seizure of the Goods soe untimely cutt, or otherwise as to yo^r Ma^{tie} in yo^r great wisdom shall seeme meete and expedient.

In consideracon whereof & that Abuses in yo^r Pet^{rs} trade may be regulated, and the publique secured from the deceipts and frauds putt upon them by the said ignorant and unskillfull persons that follow your Pet^{rs} trade unlawfully, & all others, and yo^r Pet^{rs} enabled to live by their calling, & beare the Charge of ffreemen of the said City as they ought to doe, and be in a Condition to releive the poore Brethren of their profession as the Cause may require

Yo^r Pet^{rs} in most humble manner pray That yo^r Ma^{tie} will be most graciously pleased to graunt to yo^r Pet^{rs} & their Successors yo^r Ma^{ties} most gracious Letters Pattents of Incorporation to extend to the City & Liberties thereof, & for the suppressing the said unskillfull persons, & avoiding the Cutting the said Goods out of Season, to such convenient distance in Circumference from the said City as is usuall in like cases And as to yo^r Ma^{tie} in your great wisdom shall seeme meet and convenient.

And as in all duty bound yo^r Pet^{rs} shall ever pray &c.
Upon the Backside of which said petition were the following words Endorsed, viz :

Windsor Aprill 30th, 1683.

The Pet^{rs} affirming that they have hitherto and anciently acted as a Society, by certeine Rules & Constitucons appointed by the Lord Major & Court of Aldermen of London His Ma^{tie} is graciously pleased to referre this their Petition to Mr Attorney Gen^l to examine how far those Rules and Constitutions doe extend, & whether they be not sufficient for the well ordering that Society. And if he finds they are not soe, then to report his Opinion to his Ma^{tie} whether he thinks it fitt they should be incorporated into a Company by Letters Pattents as they desire, & with what further Rules and Limitations; where-upon his Ma^{tie} will declare his further pleasure.

L. Jenkins.

The Answer of Mr. Attorney Gen^l was made upon the Backside of the said Petition & was in these words following, viz :

I have considered of this Petition, And doe find That they have beene long a Society governed by Rules & Constitutions approved by the Lord Major & Court of Aldermen from time to time as application hath been made to the Court of Aldermen, But they being noe Corporation, the Executing of those Rules is more difficult than it would be in case they were a Corporation, And in case his Ma^{tie} be pleased to incorporate them in the usuall forme for the better regulating of the Company, I conceive it necessary It should be provided for That his Ma^{tie} and his Successors may at any time by signification of their pleasure under their Privy Seale or Privy Signett, resume & determine the Corporation, & with Provision that they shall not be brought upon the Livery of the City.

R. Sawyer, 25 May 1683.

The Attorney-General's reply was followed on the Company's part by the submission of some "Reasons" showing the advantages which

would result from incorporation, together with a draft of the proposed powers under a charter :—

Some Reasons humble offered that it is for his Ma^{ties} service to incorporate the fellowship of Basketmakers London upon his Ma^{ties} reference and M^r Attorney Generall's Report thereunto.

1. M^r Attorney Gen^l Reports That the ffellowship cannot soe well put in operacon their By laws for regulation of the said profession as if they were incorporated And such Regulation is necessary to be had for the publique good.

2. To avoid any prejudice that may hereafter be done by the said Corporation to his Ma^{ties} Prerogative or to the publique, in Mr Attorney's Report there is provision made that a clause be inserted in the Patent That it shall be in his Ma^{ties} power under his Privy Seale, or Privy Signett, to determine the said Patent at his will and pleasure. Soe that if the affections of the Members of the said Corporation should not lead them to their duty, their owne interest will for preservation of their Charter. And it would be for his Ma^{ties} service that all the Corporacon in England stood upon the same tearmes.

3. There is provision in the said Report made, that the said Corporacon shall have noe Livery, because such meane Tradesmen have been generally taken notice of to be disaffected to the Government Soe that they cannot prejudice his Ma^{ties} interest upon Elections if they were willing soe to doe. But since their Charter will be at his Ma^{ties} pleasure, their interest if they have a Livery, will engage them to vote for his Ma^{ties} Service for feare of looseing their Charter.

4. They are very usefull to his Ma^{tie} in time of warr, in making Cannon Basketts, And they would be bound by the said Charter at such times, to find out fitt and able men to serve his Ma^{ty} in his traine of Artillery. And although they are but a meane Calling, yet they are

numerous & very usefull Members in the publique & are very well able to support the charge of the said Corporation.

5. The Basketmakers have been a ffellowship neare 150 yeares constituted by the Lord Maior & Court of Aldermen of London, and have hitherto regulated the said trade of Basketmaking to the great satisfaction of the Magistrates there. But the Abuses that are comitted in the said Calling are done in the Countrey neare and at a great distance from London, where they are under noe regulacon. And the Comodities soe ill made, are craftyly and deceitfully obtruded upon the King's Leidge people who are ignorant of the true value and goodness of the same, to the great damage of the publique & prejudice of the said trade. And now since Judgment is given and entered against the Charter of London, the said ffellowship of Basketmakers is fallen together with it. Soe that at present there is noe regulacon any where had in the said trade.

*A Draught of the Power to be granted in a Charter
to this Society.*

That the said Corporation of Basketmakers may be capable to purchase or sell Lands, Goods, or Chattels, and to plead and be impleaded by the name of the Master, Wardens and Assistants of the Art & Mistery of Basketmakers of the City of London and Liberties thereof.

That there shall be Three of the said ffellowship in manner and forme hereafter mentioned, who shall be & be called the Master & Wardens of the said ffellowship of Basketmakers of London And that it shall & may be lawfull to & for the said Members of the said ffellowship of Basketmakers, within some convenient time to choose and elect out of themselves three able & sufficient psons (useing the Art, trade or mystery of Basketmaking, Skaine working, Kaine working & Splinter working) to be Master & Wardens of the said ffellowship, for the space

of two whole yeares then next following, and from thenceforth untill a new Election be made And that the same Three persons soe chosen to be Master & Wardens, shall within convenient time after their said Election, be sworne before the Master and Wardens of the said ffellowship for the yeare preceding, for the true execucon of such things as shall apperteine unto their office, according to the good Rules and Ordinances to them to be allowed and appointed According to the forme of the Oath in that Case limited & provided, And that it may be lawfull to and for the said Master and Wardens soe sworne as aforesaid, to call unto their Assistance a convenient number of the members of the said ffellowship, who shall be and be called the Assistants of the said ffellowship.

That the old Master, Wardens and Assistants of the said ffellowship may lawfully hereafter, betweene the twenty fourth day of June and the Twenty ninth day of September every yeare then next following, assemble themselves together in some convenient place by them provided within the said City, and there to choose and elect out of themselves Three able men that use the said Art, trade or mystery of Basketmaking, Sckaine working, Caine working, and Splinter working, to be Master and Wardens of the said ffellowship for one whole yeare then next following, and soe forth untill three others shall be elected and sworne unto the said Office, and the same Master and Wardens soe chosen, within Twenty dayes then next following, shall be sworne truely to doe and execute such things as shall apperteine or belong to their respective Offices, according to the good Rules and Ordinances to them to be allowed & appointed. And if the same Master and Wardens thus elected and sworne, shall happen to dye or misbehave themselves within the same one yeare that they should stand That then the Members of the said ffellowship (viz:) the Master or Wardens surviving, or remaining, and the Assistants of the said ffellowship, may choose soe many more persons of the same Arts Misteries or Occupacons, to supply and

serve instead and place of him and them soe dyeing, or being removed, for the residue of the said yeare, to be sworne in forme aforesaid.

That one of the said ffellowship be called Master of the said ffellowship, And two others be called Wardens, And Sixteen others be called Assistants.

That the Upper Warden shall succeed the former Master in his Office of Master And the Under Warden shall succeed the Upper Warden in his place, and then there shall be a new Choice of an Under Warden to succeed the said Warden in his Office or place of Under Warden And soe successively yearly every yeare.

That they may have a Hall, and power to meet and make Lawes for the due and orderly Government of the said Society or ffellowship, and to inflict penalties upon Offenders according to Law.

That Adrian Pearson be the first Master of the s^d Corporacon or ffellowship, and that Jacob Chandler and James Dickenson be the first Wardens of the said ffellowship And that Matthew Keene, Anthony Watts, Thomas Hall, Richard Redding, Paul Allestry, John Slyford, William ffeilder, Joseph Williams, Samuell Puller, John Alcott, Edward Harper, John ffranklin, Thomas Thirtickell, John Berrey and George Crane, be the first Assistants of the said Company or ffellowship.

That the Company or ffellowship have the Search and Oversight of all Members free of their Society, and full power to provide due and legall Remedies against deceipts and frauds, in the said Mistery or trade of Basket-making, Sckaine working, Kaine working and Splinter working.

That the said Company or ffellowship may choose and elect one meet person fitt and able, to be their Clerke And other fitt person or more to be their Beadle or Beadles as their Comon Officers, to make Somõns in the name of the Master and Wardens for the time being And to execute other the lawfull Precepts & Comandments of the said ffellowship And the said Clerke, Beadle

and Beadles, to have such Salary as the said Company shall think fitt.

That the said Clerke and Beadle or Beadles, be sworne in manner and forme aforesaid, for the true execucon of such things as shall apperteine or belong to their respective Offices, according to the good Lawes & Rules to them prescribed and appointed.

That the Company have power and authority comandng all his Ma^{ties} officers and others, to be aiding & assisting unto them in putting the said Good Lawes & Ordinances in execucon against such as unduely exercize the said Arts and mysteries.

That other usuall powers & Clauses be alsoe inserted according to the Customes & Usages of other Corporacons and Societies of the City of London.

Notwithstanding the above, the efforts of the Basket-makers to obtain a charter from Charles II. were futile, though it is evident from the entries in the Company's books that it was some little time before the attempt was finally abandoned :—

The which proceedings aforesaid not taking the expected effect, It was resolved on to make use of John Calvert Esq^r for the accomplishing of the same, who agreed upon termes for the same, and accepted on the Obligacon of Adrian Pearson, Jacob Chandler, John Berry, James Dickenson, William ffeilder and Samuell Puller, dated the Eleaventh day of January Anno Dni 1683, for payment of One hundred Gynneys as by the Condicton thereof appeareth which followeth in these words :—

WHEREAS the above bound Adrian Pearson & Jacob Chandler the present Wardens of the Society or ffellowship of Basketmakers by authority & direcon of the said Society, Together with the assistance of the above bound

John Berrey, James Dickenson, William ffeilder and Samuell Puller on the behalfe of themselves and others of their profession, did Peticon to his Ma^{ty} to be incorporated by his Ma^{ties} most gracious Letters Patents, which being by his Ma^{ty} referred to M^r Attorney Gen^{ll} was upon his Report thereupon at present rejected And whereas the above named John Calvert hath promised to use his utmost endeavours to prevaile with his Ma^{ty} to passe a Warrant under his Ma^{ties} Royall hand and Signature Manuall directed to M^r Attorney gen^{ll} for drawing a Patent to incorporate the said ffellowship of Basket-makers under the great Seale, as in like Cases are accustomed Now the Condicon of this Obligacon is such That if the said John Calvert his Agents or Assignes doe, and shall within the space of ffoure moneths next ensueing the date above written, obtaine gett or procure the said Warrant to be signed and sealed by his Ma^{ty} for incorporating the said ffellowship of Basketmakers as aforesaid Then the said Adrian Pearson, Jacob Chandler, John Berrey, James Dickenson, William ffeilder and Samuell Puller, or any of them, their or any of their Executors Adm^{rs} or Assignes, shall and doe well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the said John Calvert his certeine Attorney Ex^{rs} Adm^{rs} or Assignes, the full and entire sum of One hundred Guinneys of Gold current English Coine of the value of one & twenty shillings and six pence each Guynney, within one Calendar moneth next after his Ma^{ty} shall be pleased to signe and seale the said Warrant, and the same be delivered to the said Wardens or one of them, or left at one of their dwelling houses for them or one of them That then this Obligacon to be void Or else it to stand & remaine in full force and vertue.

This arrangement with Mr. Calvert was agreed to by order of a subsequent court, and thus recorded :—

At a Court held December 31st, 1683.

It is agreed by us of the Society of Basketmakers whose names are hereunder written That the now present Wardens, Adrian Pearson & Jacob Chandler are hereby impowered & enabled to conclude with M^r John Calvert, and give him his demand which is One hundred Guynneys, and to give Bond for the same with two or more other persons bound with them, that they shall think meet of the same Society. Provided the said M^r John Calvert doe procure his Ma^{ties} Signe Manuall or Royall Signett to a Warrant for Letters Patent of incorporation of the said Society or ffellowship of Basketmakers, according to the Condicon of the said Bond. Alsoe we consent and agree That the said Wardens doe take up One hundred pounds current money of England upon Interest, in the behalfe of the said Society or ffellowship of Basketmakers towards the payment of the said sum to the above said John Calvert And further on the same day it was agreed That the two Wardens, Adrian Pearson & Jacob Chandler, James Dickenson, William ffeilder, Samuall Puller, and John Berrey be bound for the said money as aforesaid.

Matthew Keene

William ffeilder

Thomas Hall

Samuel Puller

John ffranklin

Thomas Thirtickell

Anthony Watts

John Berrey

James Dickenson

George Crane.

On July 7th, 1684, there is a record of payment to the clerk for entering the foregoing particulars in the Quarter book, namely:—

Paid him for entering the proceedings about
a Charter & for attending upon the Com-
pany's business 00 15 00

At a meeting of the court, held December

the 4th, 1684, the following resolution was passed :—

This Court doth order and agree that M^r Calvert be desired to continue his Solicitations for the gaining a Charter for the Company, And that he shall upon accomplishing the same be allowed One hundred Guynneys. Ordered that M^r Johnson shall assist, & look after that buisnesse, and to have satisfaction for his paines soe soone as a Charter is obtained.”

Further entries in the books show that renewed efforts were made a few months later :—

6th April, 1685.

Ordered That the Wardens, Mr Reading, Mr ffranklin, Mr Puller, Mr ffeilder, Mr Alcott, Mr Allett, Mr Evans and o^r Clerke or any three of them shall be a Comittee for the sueing for a new Charter.

29th May, 1685.

Ordered that our Clerke be desired to lay out such money as is requisite for the carrying on the buisnesse of obtaining a new Charter, And that in the first place pay unto M^r Johnson 2 Guinneys for his Encouragement & That the Clerke be allowed a Consideracon for his laying out his money.

This is followed by an entry of the payment to Mr. Johnson :—

June 3rd, 1685.

Paid then to M^r Johnson according to the
preceding Order 02 03 00

In the Wardens' Accounts from 15th July, 1681, to 15th July, 1683, there are several items

referring to this application for a charter,
namely :—

| | | | |
|--|----|----|----|
| Received of the Caniers towards the charges of a Charter | 30 | 00 | 00 |
| Spent february ij and at four other meet- ings about a Charter | 02 | 19 | 06 |
| Spent March vvv th & vvvj th goeing to White- hall with the petition and waiteing on the Secretary | 00 | 14 | 06 |
| Given the Secretaries man | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| Spent foure dayes waiteing at Whitehall & on y ^e Secretary | 00 | 17 | 00 |
| Gave the Secretaries man | 00 | 02 | 06 |
| Spent waiteing on y ^e Secretary | 00 | 06 | 00 |
| Spent May vv th waiteing on the Secretary at Windsor | 05 | 04 | 06 |
| Gave the Secretary and Captaine Cooke . . | 03 | 01 | 06 |
| Gave the Doore Keeper | 00 | 02 | 06 |
| Spent waiteing on the Secretary ten dayes . | 01 | 18 | 06 |
| Spent goeing to the Temple with the Re- ference | 00 | 12 | 00 |
| Gave M ^r Mathew Johnson | 01 | 00 | 00 |
| Paid M ^r Johnson the Attorney | 02 | 10 | 00 |
| Gave S ^r George Jefferies 5 giniys | 05 | 07 | 06 |
| Spent waiteing on the Attorney Generall . | 02 | 06 | 00 |
| Gave M ^r Cole a ginney | 01 | 01 | 06 |
| Spent with him | 00 | 08 | 06 |
| Gave the Attorney Generall ten ginneys . | 10 | 15 | 00 |
| Gave his Clarke one ginney | 01 | 01 | 06 |
| Gave the Doorekeeper | 00 | 02 | 06 |
| Spent waiteing on the Attorney Generall . | 02 | 05 | 00 |
| Spent at receiveing the Cainers mony . . | 00 | 07 | 06 |
| Paid M ^r Johnson | 02 | 10 | 00 |
| Gave him by consent | 01 | 00 | 00 |
| Paid M ^r Johnson his chargs goeing to Windsor | 00 | 14 | 00 |
| ffor hire of a horse for M ^r Berreys charges . | 00 | 06 | 00 |

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Spent at Windsor & Hampto(n) Court five dayes | 07 | 18 | 00 |
| Paid for transcribing the petition the Re- ference & the Attorney Generalls Report | 00 | 12 | 06 |
| Spent at Whitehall waiting on the Secretary for the Lord Keepers Report | 04 | 00 | 06 |
| Paid M ^r Johnson | 02 | 00 | 00 |
| Spent waiteing on the Secretary severall tymes | 01 | 12 | 00 |
| Spent August vij th goeing to Hampton Court and waiteing severall tymes | 02 | 05 | 00 |
| To M ^r Johnson his expences | 00 | 10 | 00 |
| To M ^r Chandler for by him laid out | 00 | 13 | 04 |

In the Wardens' Accounts for the period
28th July, 1683, to 28th July, 1685, the ensuing
items occur:—

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Paid M ^r Johnson for transcribing the papers about a Charter severall times | 02 | 00 | 00 |
| Spent in attending the Secretary of State at severall times. | 03 | 12 | 00 |
| Spent with the Company and about the Charter | 02 | 08 | 00 |
| Given the Door Keeper at Whitehall | 00 | 05 | 00 |

The extract from the City Records of March
18th, 1690/91 given below, refers to the fact that
the Basket-makers and Cane-chair Makers had
again petitioned the Crown for incorporation;
although there are no records of this in the
Company's books.

PILKINGTON, MAYOR.

TUESDAY 18 MARCH, 2 W. & MARY (16⁹⁰/₉₁).

Whereas a Petition hath bin presented to his Majesty
from the Baskett-makers and Caners to be incorporated,

which by order of Councell was referred to M^r Attorney Generall communicated to this Court, and a copy of the said Petition with their reasons for their Incorporation being here read, The examination thereof is by this Court referred to S^r Robert Geffery, S^r John fleet and S^r Edw^d Clarke or any two of them (taking M^r Borrett the Cities Sollicitor to their Assistance) and they to prepare reasons against the said Baskett-makers and Caners being incorporated if they think the same will be any waies injurious to this City and present the same to this Court or otherwise present to this Court their opinions therein.*

Here the matter appears to have been left ; but some years later the question of obtaining a charter was again brought forward, evidently with the concurrence and support of the Cane-chair Makers, for in the Company's Quarter book under date October the 4th, 1697, the following is recorded :—

Agreed and resolved this day that the Company of Basket-makers doe with all convenient expedition proceed and Indeavour for the obtaining a Charter to their said Company And that M^r Warden Berry, M^r Puller and M^r Kelson on the behalfe of the Cainers and M^r Warden Dobbs, M^r Pollett and M^r Goldsmith on the behalfe of the Basketmakers be forthwith Imployed and exercised in the negotiateing attending and indeavouring for the obtaining of y^e aforesaid Intended Charter. Towards the Charges whereof severall persons have subscribed to a paper remaining in the hands of M^r Warden Berry.

Although no other allusion to this attempt appears in the Company's books, the subsequent extracts from the City Records show that a

* Rep. 95, fol. 114.

petition had lately been addressed to the Crown:—

EDWIN, MAYOR.

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER, 10 WILLIAM III. (1698).

Whereas the Society of Baskettmakers and Caners have Petitioned his Ma^{tie} that they may be united and Consolidated and made one Corporacōn and the same is referred to the Attorney Generall for his Approbaciōn It is referred to S^r Thomas Cooke S^r James Houblon S^r W^m Hedges S^r Owen Buckingham S^r Tho Rawlinson and S^r Rob^t Beddingfield or any three of them to consider of the same and prepare reasons & Argum^{ts} against their Incorporaciōn and to waite on M^r Attorney with y^e same and M^r Borrett the Cities Sollicitor to Attend them and Clement Herne to warne them.*

CHILD, MAYOR.

TUESDAY 15 NOVEMBER, 10 WILLIAM III. (1698).

Upon reading the Peticōn of the Wardens and Assistants of the Baskettmakers acknowledging their error in Petitioning to be incorporated without first acquainting this Court and praying that they may have the leave of the same for their Incorporaciōn and the Caine-chaire makers desireing to be heard against the said peticon It is Ordered that both parties be heard this day Three-weekes at which time they are to attend prepared.†

CHILD, MAYOR.

TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER, 10 WILLIAM III. (1698).

Upon reading the Peticōn of y^e Baskettmakers and hearing of Councill on theire parte as well as on the Joyners who prayed to be heard against the said Peticōn

* Rep. 102, fol. 428.

† Rep. 103, fol. 33.

It is Ordered that all parties shall be heard the Second Court after the next terme.*

No record of the appearance of the parties before the Court of Aldermen has been discovered, nor further reference to this matter found in the City Records.

In the Wardens' Accounts, dated July the 7th, 1701, the following is recorded :—

| | | | |
|--|----------|-----------|-----------|
| To Mr. Webb in full for writings and attend- | <i>£</i> | <i>s.</i> | <i>d.</i> |
| ance in the Charter business | 6 | 10 | 0 |

This is the last entry in the Company's books relating to the efforts of the Basket-makers to obtain a charter.

* Rep. 103, fol. 62.

ASSESSMENTS.

IN the Report of the Committee of Privileges in connection with the grant of the Livery,* it was stated “that the Company have from time to time constituted, borne, and paid their full and due proportion and share of the contributions and duties as paid by the other Companies of this City.”

The first Precept to include the Basket-makers, dated the 20th April, 1586, was an order on the Companies to supply men for the protection of the City, the requisition being thus recorded in the archives :—

For three score hable harquebusshiers wth good & servisable Calivers murrions swordes & daggars.†

The last four Companies mentioned in the list, together with the quota of men to be provided, are thus set forth :—

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| Butchers, | half a man. |
| Turners | } half a man. |
| Basket-makers | |
| Glasiers | |

From the curious reference to “half a man” it is clear that these four Companies were under

* *Vide* p. 101.

† Journal 22, fol. 24.

an obligation to find one man between them, and it would be interesting to know how they settled the matter *inter se*.

In the reign of Elizabeth the Companies were required to keep a store of ammunition, as shown by the following Precept issued on the 4th July, 1586, for the supply of gunpowder:—

For Ten lasts of good and servic—— Gunpowder from the Companies,*

The proportion required from the last three Companies is thus recorded:—

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Turners | } 192 lbs. |
| Basket-makers | |
| Glasiers | |

As a precautionary measure against famine and inevitable extortion in times of scarcity, corn was stored in City granaries, but it is not known when the custom was established. The first reference to a compulsory loan for this purpose is found in an Act of Common Council, made the 25th September, 1521.

In 1587 all the City Companies were jointly required to provide 10,000 quarters of wheat, the Basket-makers being assessed at eight quarters. Allen states that in “this year a general scarcity of corn happened in England; and the scarcity increasing, the dearth became so excessive that wheat was sold in this city the

* Journal 22, fol. 37b.

spring following at three pounds four shillings the quarter.”*

An assessment was made for furnishing 6000 quarters of corn for the provision of the City in December, 1590. On this occasion the Basketmakers were not called upon to find the four quarters entered against them, for the order concludes with these words:—

Theise six poore companyes we have thought necessary not to charge with any pvision viz.

| | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---|----------------------|
| | | | | q ^{ters} |
| Bowyers | . | . | . | 3 |
| fletchers | . | . | . | 3 |
| Wolmen | . | . | . | 3 |
| Minstrells | . | . | . | 3 |
| Baskettmakers | . | . | . | 4 |
| Glasiers | . | . | . | 4 |
| | | | | — |
| | | | | 20 q ^{ters} |

The following assessments for corn are in the order of date:—

Precept for payment by the several Companies for the provision of 3000 quarters of Corn. November, 1596.
2½ quarters Basketmakers at 35s. the quarter £4 7s. 6d.

Precept for 5000 quarters of corn. December, 1596.
Basketmakers 1 quarter Rye, 1 quarter wheat £3 18s. 0d.
One-third part £1 6s. 0d.

Precepts 1602 and 1608 for 10,000 quarters, Basketmakers 8 quarters.

Precept for Meal to be distributed among the Wards (Cheap—1 qr. 4 bus.) February, 1661, Basketmakers—1 bus.

* “The History and Antiquities of London,” by Thomas Allen, 1827, vol. i., pp. 299, 300.

The Common Council made an order on the 14th February, 1603/4, for "Assessments on the several Companies for raising £400 for the full performance and finishing of the Pageants, Shows, &c., from the Tower to Temple Bar against the passage of the King and Queen's most excellent Majesties through the City." The Basket-makers were assessed the small proportion of 5*s.* 4*d.*

A curious precept is recorded on the 21st January, 1632, as follows:—

Leveied on the Companies towards the fine imposed on the City for not attaching the murderers of John Lambe (Basket-makers, 16*s.*).

John Lamb (known as "Dr." Lamb) was a favourite of King Charles I. At that time the citizens of London were groaning under an attempted extortion of a large sum of money under the pretence of a loan. Lamb, who was supposed to have advised these arbitrary proceedings, was beaten to death in the City by a mob on the 18th June, 1628. The King being much incensed, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen were ordered by the Privy Council to bring the perpetrators to justice, but apparently this order was disregarded, although the City was threatened with the confiscation of its charter. The matter dragged on until 1632, when the King fined the City six thousand pounds, which was afterwards reduced to fifteen hundred marks.

Owing to the high price of coal in the year 1665 caused by an old-world combine of coal dealers, much hardship was caused to the poor; fifty-six of the City Companies were therefore ordered to purchase and lay up a certain stock of coal between Midsummer and Michaelmas, and to sell the same to the poor in the winter months at a price to be settled by the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen. Among the Companies ordered to take part in this benevolent scheme, the Basket-makers were included, the amount of coal they were to stock being fixed at six chaldrons.

LOCALITY AND MEETING PLACES.

No records have been preserved showing where the Basket-makers resided before the middle of the fifteenth century. The earliest trace of the "foreigners" of 1463 is in the old manor of Blanch Appleton previously described. English and alien Basket-makers of a later date (as shown by the accompanying map) appear to have practised their craft in proximity to the chief buyers of their wares; the Fishmongers, Butchers, and Bakers.

Basket Alley in Cripplegate, and Pannier Alley in Newgate Street, no doubt derived their names from trade signs and not from the occupation of the inhabitants. The pannier was an emblem frequently met with when almost every house had its signboard, and a similar use of the basket is evidenced by the sobriquet "atte Basket," first mentioned in the City Records in 1351.*

In an edition of Stow's "Survey," published in 1720,† there appeared a list of the City Companies, giving the situation of their respective

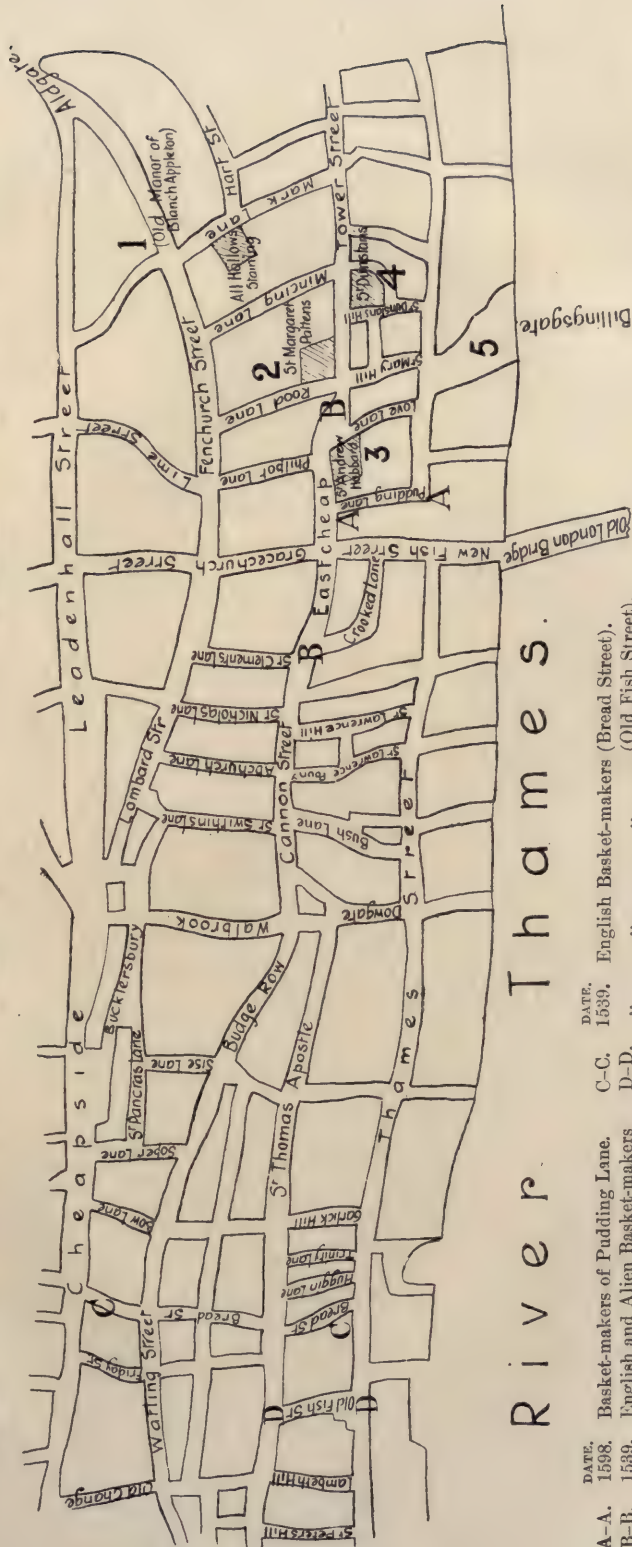
* "Roger Rook called atte Baskette,"—Husting Roll, 79 (37); see also Calendar to Letter Book G, edited by Dr. Sharpe, pp. 53, 172, 310.

† Stow's "Survey" (Strype), 1720, book iii. p. 247-248.

LOCALIZATION OF THE BASKET-MAKERS.

(The dates given are the earliest discoverable.)

| DATE. | DATE. |
|---|--|
| 1. 1463. Basket-makers of Blanch Appleton ("foreigners"). | 5. 1539. English Basket-makers (Parish of St. Andrew Hubbard). |
| 2. 1486. English Basket-makers; Parish of St. Margaret Pattens. | " 1582. Alien Basket-makers |
| 3. 1527. English Basket-makers; Parish of St. Andrew Hubbard. | " St. Dunstan. |
| 4. 1509. " | " " |
| 5. 1539. English Basket-makers (Billingsgate). | " " |



| DATE. | DATE. |
|---|--|
| A-A. 1598. Basket-makers of Pudding Lane. | C-C. 1539. English Basket-makers (Bread Street). |
| B-B. 1539. English and Alien Basket-makers (Eastcheap). | D-D. " (Old Fish Street). |



Halls.* The Basket-makers' Company was included in this list and their Hall stated to be in Broad Street. There is, however, no trace of this Hall at the present time, nor is there any other record of its existence. Stow refers to this list as having been "drawn up many years ago by Mr. Richard Smith,"† who was appointed Secondary of the Poultry Compter in 1644.‡ Thus it would appear that the Hall cannot have been in the Company's possession at the time of the Great Fire, and the reference to it must have been at an earlier stage of the Company's existence. This is borne out by the entry in the Company's books, written on the 10th January, 1666/7,§ stating that the Basket-makers had for many years before the Fire held their meetings at the Guildhall. This solitary reference to a Basket-makers' Hall leads to the supposition that its inclusion in the list was an error on the part of the Secondary.

In an account of the Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks by James Christie,|| mention is made of the fact that the use of their Hall was granted to the Basket-makers' Company in 1613. This was the old Hall ¶ in Broad Lane, in the ward of Vintry.

* *Vide* Appendix I.

† Died in 1675.

‡ Rep. 57, 234b.

§ *Vide* p. 125.

|| Christie, "Some Account of Parish Clerks," 1893.

¶ The Second Hall of the Parish Clerks' Company; their first Hall was situated in what is now Clark's Place.

A little later the Company held its Courts at the Guildhall and continued to meet there until the year of the Great Fire. From that time till 1826 the Courts were held at various taverns and coffee-houses,* and occasionally at the Guildhall.

The last meeting which took place in a tavern was held at The Two Brewers, London Wall, on the 23rd November, 1826. It was then resolved by the Court that future quarterly meetings should be held at the Guildhall, and from that date until the 27th October, 1873, the Court met there. From thence to the present time the Company has held its Courts at the Parish Clerks' Hall† in Silver Street, by permission of the Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks.

In "A General Description of All Trades,"‡ dated 1747, and bearing the imprint of T. Waller, it is stated that the Company "meet to do their business where and when their Warden appoints, commonly once a Quarter when they have a Feast." The Basket-makers occasionally met together for breakfast as well as dinner; but the following extracts from the Wardens' accounts prove that they did not err on the side of extravagance:—

August 24th 1671.

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------|----------|
| Spent at Breakfast then | | 00 05 06 |
|-------------------------|---------|----------|

* *Vide* Appendix H.

† (The Third Hall) Built in the year 1669.

‡ *Vide* Appendix A.

April 25th 1672.

Spent then at Breakfast & Dinner . . 01 10 08

April 6th 1696.

Meat & Herbs for this daies Dinner . . 01 14 0

July 6th 1696.

To the Dinner at the Herçulas Pillers . . 01 01 04

January 12th 1718.

Paid this day for Dinner at the Salutation
Tavern 2. 11. 3.

Several old dinner-bills have been preserved,
of which the following are examples :—

October y^e 9th 1765.

To the Worshipfull Company of Baskett Makers.

| | |
|--|------------|
| To three fowls one goos | 0. 10. 0. |
| To pickold porke | 0. 1. 8. |
| To gravey oysters & Appel sace | 0. 1. 4. |
| To greens | 0. 0. 6. |
| To Bread Butter &c. | 0. 2. 0. |
| To Beer | 0. 2. 2½. |
| To Wine | 0. 10. 0. |
| To Lemnon and Shugar | 0. 0. 3. |
| For Tobacco | 0. 0. 4. |
| | <hr/> |
| | 1. 8. 3½. |
| Dressing Dinner | 0. 2. 0. |
| Serv ^{ts} | 0. 1. 6. |
| | <hr/> |
| | 1. 11. 9½. |

1774 Y^e Worshipfull Company of Basketmakers 11th
July att y^e White Hart, Kingsland Road.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----|-----|-----|
| To Eating | 1. | 7. | 0. |
| Beer and tobacco | 0. | 3. | 10. |
| Wine | 0. | 12. | 0. |
| Bread &c. | 0. | 3. | 0. |
| Punch & Brand &c. | 0. | 11. | 4. |
| Porterage | 0. | 0. | 9. |
| Servents | 0. | 2. | 0. |
| Tartes. | 0. | 3. | 0. |

3. 2. 11.

THE WARDENS.

Two Wardens, originally styled Upper Warden and Under Warden * were appointed biennially between the Feasts of St. James and St. Bartholomew. By the ordinances granted to the Company in 1569, the newly elected Wardens were required to attend at the Outer Chamber of the Guildhall, and, in the presence of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, swear faithfully to perform the duties of their office.

The oath was in the following terms :—

— You and each of you will well and truly do and execute all and every such things as shall appertain and belong to your office of Warden of the Worshipful Company of Basket Makers of the City of London. So help you God.

The ancient custom whereby the wardens of each company made an oath in form similar to the above, dates back to the reign of Edward III., when the Court of Aldermen passed an ordinance that all the companies should be “well and truly” governed and

* Occasionally referred to in the Company's Books as “Renter Warden.”

that the wardens elected and sworn should have authority from the Lord Mayor to perform their duties.

One of the earliest of the Company's books records the swearing-in of the Wardens on the 28th July, 1685, namely :—

The said two Elected Wardens were on the 28th of the said moneth presented to the Lord Mayor's Court and were sworne for the due execucon of their said place.

In the Accounts, dated the 12th July, 1686, the following items are found :—

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| Paid for swearing the Wardens . . . | 00. | 04. | 00. |
| Paid for a copy of the Warden's Oath . | 00. | 02. | 00. |

During the three hundred and forty years of the Company's existence, there is only one instance of a Warden being removed from office. Subjoined are extracts from the City Records referring to the matter :—

JEFFERY, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 20 APRIL, 2 JAMES II. (1686).

Upon Complaint now made unto this Court by the company of Basketmakers ag^t Rich^d Reading who in July las was admitted upper Warden of the said company for two years then following, that he greatly neglects the duty of that place, and disposes what monies he can get of the companies into his hands, for his owne private use, and not to the use and benefitt of the company And therefore they now praied that he might by this Court be Suspended from further acting in the said place, It is thought fitt and ordered by this Court that unless the said Richard Reading (upon notice to be given him of

this order) shall appear before this Court on this day senight & give to this Court good Satisfaction as to the matter of the said Complaint This Court will then order his Suspension according to the sd companies desire.*

GEFFERY MAIOR.

TUESDAY 27 APRIL, 2 JAMES II. (1686).

Whereas upon complaint made at the last court by the company of Basketmakers ag^t Rich^d Reding one of their Wardens for declining the Service of his place and disposing the companies money to his private use. It was agreed that unless he appeared here this day to answer the said complaint, this court would Suspend him from the said place, And whereas the said Richard Reading (having had timely notice of the said order by a copy thereof left at his house) did notwithstanding fail now to appear before this Court to vindicate himselfe from the matter of the said complaint This court doth therefore Suspend him from the said place untill this day Señight And doth resolve (if he shall not then apper befort this court and justifie himselfe herein) absolutely to dismisse and discharge him and order the choice of another in his roome, And it is ordered that a Copy hereof be left at the said Mr. Reading's house in the meantime,†

GEFFERY, MAIOR.

TUESDAY 4 MAY, 2 JAMES II. (1686).

Whereas upon complaint formerly made to this Court by the company of Basketmakers ag^t Richard Reading one of their Wardens for wholly declining the Service of his place and converting the Companies money by him received to his owne private use, he hath had severall dayes prefixed him to appear before this Court and vindicate

* Rep. 91, fol. 76.

† Rep. 91, fol. 80b.

himselfe in the said matter, notwithstanding which he hath still failed to make his appearance before this court or justifie himselfe in reference to the said charge, This court therefore according to the Resolucon here taken at the last court doth absolutely dismisse & discharge him from the said place and order that another fitting person be chosen into the said place in his stead according to the Rules and usages of the said company.*

A few days later the Company chose a new Warden, the election being thus recorded in the Company's books :—

MAY 11TH 1686.

Richard Reading being dismissed by the Court of Aldreñ from his place of Upper Warden by reason of his neglecting the Companye's buisnesse and converting their money to his owne private use Mr ffilder and Mr Dickenson were put in nomination for one of them to hold the said place of Upper Warden for the remainder of the 2 yeares and by plurality of hands, Mr ffilder was chosen.

In the Wardens' Accounts for quarter day, 12th July, 1686, this item occurs :—

Paid Charges in getting Mr Reading discharged from
his Wardenship 02. 05. 06.

On the 20th August, 1695, the Court of Assistants passed a resolution that the Upper Wardens should within seven days after election :—

Signe seale execute and deliver to Three of the Eldest Assistants on y^e behalfe of the said Company one Bond or obligacon of a reasonable penalty with Two good and sufficient persons or suretys &c.

* Rep. 91, fol. 83.

The Wardens—provided they had an officer of the Lord Mayor with them—had full power to enter the houses and shops of Basket-makers to “search, view and oversee” all baskets and materials for their manufacture. It was the duty of the Wardens to see that the ordinances were observed, and also that they were read four times a year in the presence of the commonalty of the Company.

Objection to assuming office on election was met with a fine, as may be seen from the examples here given:—

JANUARY 22ND, 1671.

It is this day agreed and ordered that Mr Paul Allestry upon payment of ffoure pounds shall be discharged and excused for ever hereafter from being chosen or bearing the place or office of Warden of this Company Which said summe was paid And he accordingly discharged.

MAY 11TH, 1686.

Mr Slyford being this day chosen Under Warden did desire to be excused from the same, and for ever from all manner of Offices, and submitted to a ffine of ffive pounds, which he accordingly paid And the said Mr Slyford is by this Court discharged from ever being selected Warden or other Office in the said Company.

JULY Y^E 24TH 1707.

This day Mr John Olly appearing in this Court and desiring to be excused from the service of Warden for the Two ensuing yeares for which he was lately chosen under Warden and also to be exempted from the service of

upper Warden when soever he should be chosen alledging that his multiplicity of buisnes would prevent him from his due performance of the said office and desireing to pay such ffine for the same as this Court should think fitt not exceeding ffive Pounds This Court by the majority agreed to ffoure Guineas for the same & the same was accordingly received of the said Mr John Olly.

QUARTER DAY APRIL 13TH 1719.

This day at y^e Request of Mr. W^m Board the p^sent Under Warden of this Company for to ffine for his Office of Upper Warden for his Two yeares commencing from Midsomer next And Mr Board agreeing to such ffine for y^e same as the Company should think fit, the same was put to the vote and it was by the majority agreed that his ffine shalbe ffour Pounds.

An instance of a refusal to assume office and the penalty for so doing is recorded at a meeting of the court held the 11th October, 1732 :—

Memd. At this Court the Clerk acquainted the Company that Mr. Bott being served wth a Warrant from the L^d Mayor for his contempt in not appearing to his Lordships Sumonds & for refusing to serve as Under Warden to this Company The s^d Mr Bott had Submitted to pay his ffine of Under Warden & had pd the same accordingly together with his arrears of quarteridge & some small part of the Charges as by the Upper Wardens acco^{ts} appears, Upon w^{ch} the s^d Mr Bott was excused from serving the s^d office : And it being put to the Question whether the proceedings of the Upper Warden in this behalf were approved of by the Company or not, It was resolved in the affirmative.

In the Wardens' Accounts dated the 9th July, 1733, the following appears :—

Mr. Bott for his ffine not serving Upper

Warden 5. 0. 0.

The last occasion on which the Wardens were sworn on taking office is recorded in the Company's books as follows :—

29TH JULY 1819.

The Upper and Under Warden with the Clerk attended at the Upper Court of the Lord Mayor of the City of London and were sworn to the due execution of their Office in the following form :—

Richard Allum and Thomas Okey, you and each of you swear that you will well and truly do and execute all and every such things as shall appertain and belong to your Office of Wardens of the Basket Makers' Company of the City of London.

So help you God.

A complete list of the Wardens from the year 1661, as well as a few names of earlier date, are given in the Appendix.

THE COURT OF ASSISTANTS.

ON reference to the Ordinances of 1569 it will be noted that no mention of Assistants is made therein, though they are no doubt implied in the provision that "the old Wardens shall yield up their account to the new Wardens and *three or four other persons* * of the said craft." The only two occasions on which Assistants are mentioned occur in the Ordinances granted later in 1585, as follows :—

(a) "No man enfranchised, as aforesaid, shall receive into his service any journeyman without the consent of the Wardens of the said Company, and four of the Assistants."

(b) "No man enfranchised in the said Company, being a journeyman, as long as he shall work journey-work, shall take or keep any Apprentice without the Wardens' consent and four of the Assistants."

* The first suggestion of the office of "Assistant" in connection with the City companies occurs in the records of the Grocers for the year 1379, as follows :—"At y^e furst congregaycon of y^e wardeyns there shall be chosin six of y^e companie to be helpyng and counsellunge of y^e same wardeyns for the yeere followinge." They do not appear to have been described as "Assistants" before the commencement of the 16th century. *Vide* Herbert, "History of the Twelve Great Livery Companies, 1837," vol. i. pp. 53, 54.

Although the Ordinances are silent regarding the manner of the appointment of Assistants, and their powers and duties are not stated therein, it was an early practice for wardens of companies to appoint persons enfranchised in the craft to assist them—a custom which can be traced back to the early Saxon Gilds. In the absence therefore of special provisions in the Basket-makers' regulations, the inference is that the customary powers of wardens in such matters were allowed. This seems to be borne out by the Wardens' Oath provided in the first Ordinance, namely: "that they shall execute such things belonging to their office according to the custom of the City, and as the Wardens of other Companies do."

An early trace of the office of Assistant is found in the Petition of the 27th March, 1610, submitted to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen. From this document we find that the first recorded Assistants were six in number.* From the above date to the 14th October, 1723, the number varied from six to sixty-eight, when they were ordered to be reduced to thirty, as shown by the Quarter book:—

Agreed and Ordered That no more Assistants be chosen until the p^rsent Assistants which now are 68 be reduced to 30 persons unless upon some perticular occasions of some extraordinary Person or Persons such as the majority of the Company shall think fitt.

* Clement Holmes, Adrian Adrianson, William Addersburie, William Weatlie, Thomas Olfie and John Clarke.

The Quarter book records the fact that on the 28th September, 1776, "Ten others were put in nomination as proper persons to be on the Court of Assistants and were all unanimously chosen."

At the present time the number of Assistants is limited to twenty-five.

The earliest recorded fine payable by an Assistant on election to the Court was 3*s.* 4*d.*, the following being the first entry of such payment:—

JANUARY 12TH, 1662.

This day William Perrey was admitted
an Assistant and paid 00 03 04

The fine remained unaltered for seven years, after which it was very considerably increased, as shown by the extract from the Quarter book given below:—

JULY 5TH 1669.

This day upon debate It was resolved agreed on & so it is Ordered that for the future every person that shall be admitted an Assistant to y^e Wardens of this Company shall pay for a ffyne the some of fforty shillings sterling before his admission.

In the year 1819 the fine was advanced to £2 14*s.* 6*d.*, and on successive occasions has been further increased.

The Court of Assistants was an active body established to assist the Wardens in seeing that the ordinances were observed; it was commissioned to search for defective wares, and its

duties in the past, when the Company had powers of control over the trade, were no doubt onerous. The following extract from the books shows that the office was at one time irksome and not always appreciated:—

JULY 13TH 1674.

fforasmuch as Richard ffuller and James Alwinckle appeare not to doe service, and to execute their places of Assistants It is ordered That they shall be discharged from their said places And they are hereby accordingly discharged.

AUGUST 20TH 1688.

Rec^d of Mr Richard Rose the sum of ffive pounds seaven shillings and sixpence in full for his being excused and discharged from all offices of this Company (Quarteridge excepted).

Refusal to assume office after election appears to have been a serious matter:—

QUARTER DAY, JANUARY Y^e 28TH, 1694.

Expended in sumoning Mr. Poulten before

y^e Lord Mayor for refusing comeing on

the Assistants &c. 00 07 05

THE LIVERY.

THE wearing of liveries was restricted by statute * in the reign of Richard II., and only allowed by the king's licence. For some considerable period this distinction was prohibited by Acts of Parliament, but these enactments did not refer to the liveries of the Companies, though several attempts were made to include them, with the object of curtailing their growing influence in City politics.

It will be remembered in connection with the Company's petition for a charter after the Restoration, that the Attorney-General advised the Crown not to bring the Basket-makers upon the Livery of the City. This objection was doubtless urged on account of the part the City had lately played in the Civil War.

The first record of efforts made by the Basket-makers to obtain a grant, occurs in the year 1775. This important matter was from time to time under their consideration; but there seem to have been financial difficulties in the early stages of the proceedings, for it was not until 1825—fifty years after the matter was first

* 13 Rich. II.

brought forward—that a Livery was obtained ; a testimony to the perseverance shown by those interested in the welfare of the Company.

The first steps taken are thus recorded in the Company's books :—

At a meeting of the Wardens and Court of Assistants held at the House of Mr. Oliver the sign of the Bell in Basinghall Street the 3rd day of March 1775. It is Unanimously Agreed, having advised with Mr. Holder relative to obtaining the Livery for the Company, and the said Mr. Holder having Informed the Court that the expence thereof will not Exceed ' forty Pounds We who are Present agree to subscribe for the above Purpose the Particular Sum against our names Respectively :—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------|----|----|----|
| John Havall | 5. | 5. | 0. |
| Richard Allum | 5. | 5. | 0. |
| Samuel Pryer Sen. . . . | 5. | 5. | 0. |
| William White | 5. | 5. | 0. |
| Benjamin Phillips | 3. | 3. | 0. |
| Robert Kemshead | 0. | 0. | 0. |
| Richard Hollingsworth | 5. | 5. | 0. |

At a Court of Assistants held on the 13th September, 1780, it was resolved :—

That the money arising from Quarterage and from every other income of the Company of Basket Makers, London, be put in the hands of Trustees in order to raise a sum of money to enable the said Company to become a Livery Company, and that the Wardens for the time being, be the Trustees for the purpose before mentioned.

In that year the income of the Company was very small, and the prospect of obtaining a Livery appeared somewhat remote.

No further attempt was made until 1810,

when the matter was again brought forward, for at a meeting of the Court, held on the 6th of December of that year, this entry occurs in the minutes :—

It being understood that this company can be made a Livery Company at the expense of £60 or thereabouts the several persons above named agreed to contribute and pay an equal proportion of the expense of obtaining same.

The following was recorded at a meeting of the Court held on the 12th August, 1811 :—

Many Members of the Company being desirous of obtaining a Livery, and a Petition to the Court of Aldermen for that purpose being read the same was approved of and signed by the Freemen present.

The petition presented to the Court of Aldermen, and referred to a Committee of that body on the 28th January, 1812, was as follows :—

To

The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen of the City of London.

The humble petition of the Wardens and Court of Assistants of the Company of Basket Makers of the City of London.

Sheweth :—

That the Company of Basket Makers of London have been from time immemorial and are a Company by præscription and have been frequently recognised as such by your Honourable Court and your Honourable Court in the year 1482 * in the second year of the reign of King Edward the Fourth Sir Thomas Cooke being then Mayor

* An error for 1463, the reference being to the Order of Common Council made the 12th October [3 Edward IV.], *vide* p. 7.

Also in the year 1537* in the 30th year of the reign of King Henry the 8th Sir Thomas Gresham being then Mayor and likewise in the year 1569 in the 10th† year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth in the Mayoralty of [Wolstane] Dixie‡ as well as in the year 1610 in the reign of King James the 1st and the Mayoralty of Sir Thomas Campbell made and ordered several Rules and Bye-laws which they judged would be for the benefit and good government of the said Company of Basket Makers and for the support of the Rights and Interests of the said Company and the regulation of the goods and wares manufactured by the Craft thereof.

That the said Company of Basket Makers have from time to time contributed borne and paid their full and due proportion and share of the contributions and duties from time to time paid by the other Companies of the City of London.

That the said Company of Basket Makers labours under great disadvantage in not being invested with a Livery in several respects and not being held in the esteem of a Livery Company is greatly injured as it is presumed in the increase of its numbers and thereby the public in many instances deprived of the benefit and advantage of the said Company as many Merchants warehousemen and tradesmen not makers of but dealers in and exporters of baskets of different denominations (as the said Company have great reason to believe) in case the said Company was a Livery Company would become Members thereof and thereby be subject to the Laws search and examination of and who at present not being Members of the said Company it hath no control over nor the power which the said Company of Basket Makers would in that case have within the liberties of the City of London and its vicinity.

* This date should be 1538, *vide* p. 18.

† This should be the "11th year."

‡ The name mentioned is an error. Sir Thomas Rowe was mayor in that year, *vide* p. 31.

That divers Members of the said Company are of considerable substance and are able and willing to bear the expense attending a Livery and to contribute and assist on all public occasions to the honour dignity and service of this City.

That your Petitioners humbly apprehend that if a Livery was granted to the said Company it would be of great benefit and advantage thereto and an encouragement to a valuable and extensive branch of Trade as by means thereof the persons using and exercising the art or mystery of Basket Makers would be more ready to take their freedom of the said Company and many Merchants warehousemen and other traders exporters of baskets (altho' not makers thereof) would become Members of the said Company the same being on a respectable footing equal with the rest of their fellow citizens who are entitled to the benefits and privileges which can be enjoyed by the Liverymen of the City of London only.

That your Petitioners in their said trade of Basket Makers are very instrumental in increasing the annual landed Income and Revenues of the City of London inasmuch as they are the purchasers and workers of the rods and osiers growing upon various parts of the lands and estates of the said City and which lands unless as at present so profitable and beneficially applied to the growth and production of osiers rods and willows would be almost totally unproductive to the revenue thereof And your Petitioners beg leave to suggest to your Honourable Court that by granting them a Livery and thereby placing them in a state of respectability equal with the rest of their fellow citizens a constant and ready market would be found for the produce of the lands of the City of London and an annual increasing Income be made to the Revenues thereof.

Your Petitioners therefore most humbly Pray this Honourable Court to invest the said Company of Basket

Makers with a Livery under such restrictions and regulations as to this Honourable Court shall seem meet.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, etc.

The extracts given below are from the minutes of subsequent meetings of the Court:—

6TH FEBRUARY 1812.

Mr. Allum reported that he had together with the Clerk attended the Court of Aldermen when Sir Charles Price presented the Petition which was referred to a Committee of the Court of Aldermen.

Resolved that this Court and such of the Company as can make it convenient do meet at the Baptist Head Coffee House, Aldermanbury on such day and hour as shall be appointed to proceed from thence to the Committee of the Court of Aldermen appointed to take the petition of this Company for a Livery into consideration.

10TH FEBRUARY 1812.

The Court proceeded to attend the Court of Aldermen on the subject of the Petition but nothing definite was done.

No further progress was made until the 25th March, 1825, when the following brief reference relating to the matter is found:—

The subject of obtaining a Livery was discussed.

On the 29th March, 1825—thirteen years after the presentation of the Petition—a Livery limited to thirty was granted by the Court of Aldermen, and on the 12th April following it was resolved at a meeting of the Court:—

That the Clerk attend the Comptroller's Office Guildhall London and obtain the Certificate and other Documents necessary for authenticating the Right of the Company to a Livery.

On 1st July in the same year the Clerk reported :—

That the Certificate of a Livery having been granted to this Company by the Court of Aldermen, was ready and that the Fee thereon exclusive of his account in respect thereof was £50.

At the next meeting of the Court held on the 6th July, 1825, the Chairman reported “ That he had procured the Certificate from the Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall, that a Livery had been granted to the Company by the Court of Aldermen,” when it was resolved—

That the Certificate be entered on the Minutes of the Court as follows :—

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Garratt, Mayor | Tuesday the 29th day of March 1825 and in the Sixth year of the Reign of George the fourth of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King &c. |
|----------------|--|

The Committee of Privileges did this day deliver unto this Court a Report in writing under their hands recommending a Livery to be granted to the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers which was read in these words :—

To the Right Worshipful the Lord
Mayor and Court of Aldermen.

In Obedience to an Order of this Honourable Court of the Twenty eighth day of January 1812 We whose Names are hereunto subscribed being appointed (amongst

others) to examine the Allegations of the Petition of the Wardens and Court of Assistants of the Company of Basketmakers of the City of London relating to their being made a Livery Company of this City and to report our Opinions thereon to this Court do humbly certify that we have accordingly met and examined into the Allegations of their said Petition and do find that the said Company of Basketmakers have been from time immemorial and are a Company by prescription and have been frequently recognized as such and have from time to time contributed borne and paid their full and due proportion and share of the contributions and duties as paid by the other Companies of this City.

That the Members of the said Company are admitted to the freedom of this City by the Chamberlain and bind Apprentices according to the Custom of London who on the expiration of their terms are duly admitted to the freedom by virtue of their Service and the Children of the Members of the said Company are also admitted to the freedom by Patrimony and this Court have been pleased from time to time to allow and order persons to be admitted into the freedom of this City in the said Company of Basketmakers by Redemption.

And we also find That the said Company labours under great disadvantages in not being invested with a livery in several respects and in not being held in the esteem of a Livery Company is greatly injured as it is presumed in the increase of its Members.

That divers Members of the said Company are of considerable substance and are able and willing to bear the Expense attending a Livery and to contribute and assist on all public occasions to the Honour and Dignity and Service of the City And we find that if a Livery was granted to the said Company it would be of great Benefit and advantage thereto and an Encouragement to a most valuable and extensive Branch of the British Trade as by means thereof the persons using or exercising the Art or Mystery of Basketmaker would be more ready to take

their Freedom of the said Company and many Merchants Warehousemen and other Traders not makers of but dealers in and exporters of that Commodity would become members of the said Company the same being on a respectable footing equal with the rest of their fellow Citizens who are entitled to the Benefits and Privileges which by the custom of this City can be enjoyed by the Liverymen only and after duly considering thereof it does appear to us that the complying with the Prayer of their Petition will be beneficial to the said Company by encouraging and promoting the increase of their Members and contribute to the dignity and Service of this City by enabling them to attend and assist on all Public occasions. We are therefore of Opinion that they should be created and made a Livery Company of this City and that the said Livery should be granted unto them under the qualifications and conditions following (that is to say) that their Livery Fine be set at the Sum of Twenty Pounds Sterling and the Sum of Thirteen Shillings and Four pence to the Clerk and Six shillings and eight pence to the Beadle that the number on their Livery should not at any time exceed Thirty that they admit no person to their Livery without such person first produce the Copy of his freedom of the City of London. That they be subject to the several Orders of this Court respecting Livery Companies. That no member of their Company who is of the Clothing of any other Company of the City should be called on the Livery of their Company before he be translated from such other Company openly in this Court according to the ancient Custom of this City. That they do not compel any person to take upon him the Clothing or Livery without his free consent. That they be enjoined to a constant attendance upon the Lord Mayor for the time being upon all public Solemnities and that the Master & Wardens of the said Company of Basket-makers for the time being do return annually on or before the Twenty fifth day of December to the Town Clerk's Office a List of their Livery with their places of abode All

which we submit to the Judgment of this Honourable Court dated this 29th day of March 1825.

R. C. Glyn.

Ja^s. Shaw.

Matt^s. P. Lucas.

Which Report was well liked and approved and confirmed by this Court and Ordered to be entered in the Repertory and in all things performed And it is further Ordered that the Attornies of the outer Court do take care that Precepts be for the future sent to the said Company of Basketmakers upon all occasions as to the other Livery Companies of this City.

Woodthorpe.

The earliest record of voting is found in "A List of the Liverymen who polled for the Lord Mayor in 1831," as follows:—

BASKET MAKERS.

Harris John, 39 Clements Lane.

Mullard William, 27 London Wall.

Okey Thomas, White-rose-court, Spitalfields.

Tucker George, Belmont-row, Bethnal Green.

Walden Samuel, Whitefriars.

In 1877 the number allowed on the Livery had been attained, and freemen seeking election had to wait until vacancies occurred. Twenty-four years later the question of obtaining an increase having been considered, a meeting of the Court of the Company was held on the 16th October, 1901, when it was resolved "That application be made to the Court of Aldermen for an increase of the Livery," and the following Petition was submitted:—

To

The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor and
Court of Aldermen of the City of London.

The humble petition of the Wardens and
Court of Assistants of the Worshipful
Company of Basket Makers in the City of
London.

Sheweth:—

That on the Twenty Ninth day of March One
Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty Five your Honour-
able Court was pleased to order that the Company of
Basket Makers be created and made a Livery Company,
the number to be admitted not to exceed Thirty.

Your Petitioners beg leave to represent to your
Honourable Court that the number of persons now on
the Livery of the Company have reached the permitted
number of Thirty, and that there are several highly
respected persons desirous of becoming Freemen of the
said Company and of being admitted to the Livery
thereof, but by reason of the aforesaid order of your
Honourable Court limiting the number of Liverymen to
Thirty, your Petitioners are unable to admit them to
that privilege.

Your Petitioners submit that an increase in the
number of their Livery will conduce to the benefit of the
said Company, and be an advantage to the Citizens of
London and to the public generally.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your
Honourable Court will be pleased to take the premises
into consideration, and grant an increase of not exceeding
One Hundred to the number of the Livery of the said
Company, under such regulation and orders for the
honour and dignity of this Company as your Honourable
Court shall think fit.

This Petition was received by the Court of
Aldermen, and on the recommendation of the
Committee of Privileges as set forth in the

following Report, the Livery was increased to eighty :—

A Court of Mayor and Aldermen holden in the Inner Chamber of the Guildhall of the City of London, the 10th day of December 1901, and in the 1st year of the reign of Edward the Seventh, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King &c.

Dimsdale, Mayor.

The General Purposes Committee did this day deliver unto this Court a Report in writing under their hands on the Reference of the 12th November last on the Petition of the Wardens and Court of Assistants of the Company of Basket Makers, for an addition to their Livery, and recommending that the number of the Livery be increased from 30 to 80 upon condition that they do not exceed that number and that the Order of this Court of the 29th March 1825 in relation to the admission of persons to the Livery and of the payment of the fine in full upon such admission be strictly adhered to which was read.

Which Report was well liked and approved by this Court and It is Ordered accordingly.

Monckton.

APPRENTICES.

The usual provisions for the binding of Apprentices were made in the Ordinances of 1569. Freemen were permitted to have four but not more, under a penalty of 20s. In the Ordinances of 1585 an exception was made to this rule in favour of any past Warden of the Company, who was allowed to keep five, while the same Ordinances provided that no journeyman basket-maker should keep an apprentice, without the consent of the Wardens and four Assistants.

The earliest records of the Company reveal an old custom whereby the Apprentices on obtaining their freedom presented the Company with a silver spoon.* In many cases these spoons were stamped with the initials of the donors.

The first entry, dated the 8th September, 1661, is as follows:—

| | |
|--|------------|
| This day William Scott late appntice of | |
| Robert Harding was upon his testimony | |
| made free and paid his enableing money | . 00 03 04 |
| And gave a silver spoone marked with the | |
| letters | WS. |

* A list is given in the Appendix D. The spoons received prior to September 2nd, 1666, were destroyed in the Great Fire (*vide* p. 126). Those received after that date were sold (*vide* p. 132).

In 1669 this obligation was extended to persons who were made free otherwise than by servitude ; for on July the 5th of that year the Court ordered :—

That every person which shall be made free shall pay duties to y^e Company 10^s 4^d and shall give a Silver Spoon or 10^s in lieu thereof.

The custom was in force until July the 3rd, 1671, when the Court resolved :—

That for the future every person that shall be admitted a freeman of this Company shall pay twenty shillings in money and noe spoone.

An early entry in the Roll of Apprentices reveals the uncommon Christian name of “ Alderman ” :—

APRIL THE 10TH, 1655.

Alderman Hobbs sonne of Willm Hobbs of Twittenham in the Countie of Midd. Painter doth put himselfe apþntice to Anthony Watts Citizen and Basketmaker of London for 8 yeeres frō the ffeast of the Purification of the blessed Lady St Mary the Virgin last.

His admission to the freedom is recorded in the Company's books as follows :—

APRIL 11TH 1670.

Alderman Hobbs apprentice of Anthony Watts was upon his test.* made free and paid for a Spoone x^s and viij^s & iiij^d . . . 00 18 04

On the 12th November, 1694, there is a record of a girl† being bound :—

* Testimony.

† Women were admitted to the Freedom of the Company.

Of y^e Clerke for y^e binding of a Girl to Mr.

Berry 00 05 00

There is one record of an illegal indenture and a fine in consequence :—

JULY 29TH 1698.

This day Hugh Roberts the apprentice of the said Robert Lye a ffreeman of this Company was made free & paid 01 00 00

The said Robert Lye upon Consideracon & inquieri into the legallity of the binding to him of the said Hugh Roberts the Apprentice & finding him to be bound privately by a scrivener or some other person not with the knowledge of the Company and contrary to the custome & rules of the same was for the same offence fined & paid 01 00 00

The following (of which there are many similar entries) is recorded in the Company's books on 8th April, 1717 :—

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|----|----|---|----|---|
| To the Chamberlin for Thirty Six Bindings | } | £ | s. | d. | | | |
| for the Orphans as by the receipt in y ^e | | | | | | | |
| Booke * | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 4 | 10 | 0 |

Indentures with “free sisters” are recorded as late as the end of the eighteenth century, when the practice of admitting women to the freedom had almost ceased.† The following is found under date the 5th July, 1742 :—

* A binding fee of 2s. 6d. due to the Chamberlain was appropriated by Act of Parliament for the relief of orphans.

† The last occasion was on 31st May 1832 when a Widow was “admitted and sworn a Freewoman by Redemption.”

At this Court Richard Wheatley living opposite Ventners' Hall in Thames Street who was bound Apprentice to Sarah Evans Widow of Benjamin Evans Citizen and Basket Maker of London was this day made free of this Company and paid Twenty Shillings.

A few examples of the early entries in the Company's books recording admissions to the freedom, or "turnovers" of Apprentices are given below :—

JANUARY 20TH 1667.

This day Robert White late the apprentice of Jane Deacon widow and afterwards turned over to William Slyford was upon his test. made free and paid 00 03 04

JULY 3RD 1671.

This day John Love son of John Love of Cambridge in the County of Cambridge Basketmaker who was by Indenture dated the thirteenth day of Aprill 1664 bound unto William Scott was upon his testimony made free and paid in respect of noe spoone 01 00 00

JULY 3RD 1671.

This day William Ault son of George Ault of Gildersloy in the County of Derby husbandman who was bound the seaventh of May 1664 unto Richard Cobham was upon his Mrs testimony made free and in respect of the smallnesse of his spoone paid } 00 12 00 & a spoone

JANUARY 18th 1675.

This day John White late Appntice of Peter Valine was turned over to Samuell Puller of the same trade for that his Master is gone beyond Sea and left him to goe at large ij^s vj^d

JANUARY 11TH 1685.

Thomas Leech Appntice of James Dickenson
and afterwards turned over to Isaac Stone
was upon his test. made free and paid . 01 00 00

JULY 12TH 1686.

John Emerton Appntice of John Franklin was
upon his test. made free and paid . . 01 00 00

MAY 11TH 1687.

Timothy Farmer Appntice of Richard Flaggett
upon the test. of Rich^d Spackman Armorer . 01 00 00

JUNE 21ST 1687.

John Norris Appntice of John Barrett Citizen
and Vintner was this day turned over to
John Olley Citizen and Basketmaker of the
same trade for the residue of the terme &
paid 00 02 06

JUNE 29TH 1688.

George Brookes Appntice of William Rymes
decd. was upon the test. of Richard Morris
(in fforestreet) Citizen and Bricklayer made
free and paid 01 00 00

JULY 15TH 1689.

William Harrison Apprentice of Thomas Hall
decd. was upon the test. of Widow Hall his
Mistris made free and paid . . . 01 00 00

JULY 14TH 1690.

William Constable Appntice of Alderman *

Hobbs was upon the test. of Thomas Hodg-
kins, Blacksmith made free and paid . . .

01 00 00

SEPTEMBER 24TH 1690.

William Tomlinson Appntice of Adrian Pear-
son deced. was upon the test. of John Geast

Citizen and Haberdasher made free and paid

01 00 00

* *Vide* p. 107.

CONTROL OF THE TRADE.

THE Company made full and continuous use of the powers granted by their Ordinances until the middle of the eighteenth century, and confiscation of defective wares and summonses for not conforming to the rules and regulations, were of frequent occurrence.

There is an early reference in the City Books to foreign-made baskets—an order by the Court of Mayor and Aldermen, forbidding a Basket-maker to purchase certain kinds of imported wares. It is stated therein that some defects were found in the Company's Ordinance granted a few months previously,* and it was directed that the same should be remedied; but there is no trace of any steps having been taken to amend the regulation in question. The order is as follows :—

CAMPBELL, MAIOR.

FRIDAY 22 JUNE, 8 JAMES I. (1610).

Itm̄ this day the Company of Basketmakers made Complaint unto this Court against one Jerome Benton for the breach of an order heretofore established by the Lord

* 27th March, 1610.

Maior and this Court wherin it was concluded and agreed that no freeman of that Company should at any time hereafter buy of a foreyner any covered Basketts flasketts Stake maunde and Tymber ware upon payne to forfeite for every tyme so offending the some of twenty shillings, and refuseth to pay the penaltie soe by the said court inflicted upon him: Whereupon this Court taking beter consideraçon of the said Order and finding some defects therein have ordered that the same shalbe redressed and amended and in the meane tyme the said Benton was by this Court forbidden to buy any more wares of foryners according to the tenor of the said order.*

It is evident that Jerome Benton (or Banton), a freeman of the Turners' Company, long resented the action of the Basket-makers, to whom he was no doubt a perpetual source of annoyance, and in the old days "going on search" was apparently a duty not unattended with some personal risk:—

PROBY, MAIOR.

THURSDAY, 20 MARCH, 20 JAMES I. (16²³/₂₄).

Item upon complaint made unto this Courte by the Wardens and Assistants of the Company of Basket māks. of London, against Jeremye Banton, Cittizen and Turri of London, by trade a baskettmaker, for that he muche abused the wardens for the tyme being with unseemly and disordered speeches, haveing entred into his shope and warehouse, by his owne free leave to vewe and see his wares, whether theye were made of good and seasonable stuffe, according to the orders of this Courte heretofore made and confirmed, for the good Govern^t of that Company, for that the said Banton, did then violently without cause, beate Richard Bingham upper warden of the said

* Rep. 29, fol. 246b.

company and fetched blood of him. The said Banton was convented before this Courte, And forasmuche as hee confessed and acknowledged his said fault with an expression of hartie sorrowe, and humblie upon his knee submitted himselfe, to the Wardens of that Company, desiring theire favoures and willingly deposited in Courte a fyne of ffortie shillinges, for his Offence & paid to the Sheriffs iij^s iiij^d for blood sheed, This Courte with the good like and consent of the Wardens was pleased to remitt this his offence and receive him into favoure, And xx^s of the said fyne of xl^s was by this Court deli^ved unto the said Bingham in recompence of his hurt and the other xx^s was deli^ved unto the other Warden to bee disposed of by the Company att theire discretion, And by consent of parties it is ordered, that noe suite shall hereafter be psequited on either side for & touching this cause.*

The following extracts from the Company's books illustrate the right of search and power to confiscate bad materials, or baskets inefficiently made :—

1661.

Paid an officer for seizeing 10,000 of twigg at
Bull Wharfe 00 05 00

1662.

Spent in a search that day † 00 18 02

1663.

Received in severall searches this yeare 00 16 05

1667.

Spent in having A Spilton Basketmaker before
the Chamberlain 00 02 06

* Rep. 37, fol. 130.

† Between the years 1661 and 1700, there are many entries of payments made on "Search Day"—an occasional day set apart for searching Basket-makers' shops.

1667.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Laid out for wharfage and seizing foure dozen and two baskets | 00 07 00 |
| Laid out and spent at seizeing the skreene basketts | 00 06 00 |

1667.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Paid for warneing Mr. Harrington and William Rymes before the Lord Major | 00 04 00 |
| Paid Mr. Hall by him laid out for prosecuting the hucksters | 00 10 00 |

1667.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Paid in the businesse of the skreene basketts touching hawking | 00 10 00 |
|---|----------|

1670.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Laid out about six dozen of Prickell and three dozen of Crosse Basketts at Queenehith | 00 06 00 |
|--|----------|

Unseasonable materials and badly made baskets, when confiscated, were deposited at the Guildhall, and a jury impanelled to examine the wares, which, if found defective, were destroyed, an instance from the City Records is here given:—

SHELDON, MAYOR.

TUESDAY 6TH JUNE, 28 CHAS. II. (1676).

Whereas the Wardens of the Company of Basket-makers have lately in pursuance of their Charter * and the Ordinances of the said Company seized in the Hands of severall Persons of their Art a certain quantity of Wares by them Discovered to be Defective and not well made which are

* The word "Charter" is evidently used here in a popular sense.

now remaining in the Hands of Mr Man Keeper of the Guild hall Now at the Humble desire of the Wardens and Assistants of the said Company that the said Wares may be destroyed according to their Ordinances and the Customes of this City in that behalf It is thought fit and Ordered by this Court That a Jury be Impannelled to Enquire thereof And if they shall finde the same to be defective That then they be destroyed accordingly.*

The decision of the jury does not appear to have been recorded on the above occasion, but in the following year an entry in the Company's books records a similar case resulting in the burning of the wares:—

25TH JULY 1677.

| | |
|---|---|
| Paid for a triall about badd and defective ware and to obtaine an order of the Court of Aldermen for burneing of the same | vij ^{li} xv ^s vj ^d |
| Paid to witnesses for carrying the ware into Smithfeild and other charges when the same was burnt and consumed | lvj ^s |

The Company's books contain numerous entries showing the extent of the authority exercised by the Court of Assistants over the freemen, and the opposition to "foreigners."

Subjoined are a few examples:—

OCTOBER 11TH 1669.

It is this day ordered that for the future all persons free of this Company and who use the trade of Basket-making that imploy Journeymen shall see to the payment of their Journeymens quarteridge as well free as forraine.

* Rep. 81, fol. 207b.

AUGUST 24TH 1671.

Spent at Bartholemew faire * Search . . . 06 15 00

JANUARY 20TH 1672.

This day Richard ffuller was fined at vij^s for not appearing
in Eleaven Quarter dayes.

John ffarrington fined at vij^s for not appearing in Eleaven
Quarters.

William Robinson fined xix^s, viij^d for not appearing
Thirty Quarters.

John Dickenson fined ix^s viij^d for not appearing ffifeteene
Quarters.

John Shepheard fined vj^s iiij^d for not appearing ten
Quarters.

APRIL 14TH 1673.

This day Edward Harper was fined for setting
a Journeyman of Mr Harding on work . . . 00 06 00

MAY 27TH 1673.

Given an Officer to Warne Harrison before the
Lord Major 00 02 00

OCTOBER 6TH 1673.

This day John ffarrington was fined for employing a
Journeyman without leave of the Wardens.

APRIL 6TH 1674.

This day was John Deale fined vj viij for every Journey-
man he keeps without the leave of the Wardens.

JUNE 7TH 1677.Spent about getting an order to destroy ware v^s x^d

* At Bartholomew Fair a search for defective baskets was regularly made, and fines levied. The fair was held in West Smithfield on St. Bartholomew's Day (August 24th) from 1133 to 1855.

OCTOBER 17TH 1681.

Paid Thomas Hayes * for looking after ffor-
reigners 00 02 06

NOVEMBER 12TH 1690.

This day Thomas Street being formerly fined the sum of ffive and twenty shillings for buying Rodds of unlawfull band, and for which he had given a Note under his hand this Court thought fitt to take onely 15^s which he willingly paid.

JANUARY 19TH 1690/1.

This day the Court of Assistants took under Consideration the Case of Mr Warden Allett who had formerly been fined the sum of 50^s for buying Rodds of unlawful band. And it being put to the vote whether any part of the same fine should be returned to him or not. It was voted in the Negative and accordingly the same fine is Ordered to be brought in to the poors' box the same to be disposed of as the Court shall from time to time think fit.

Paid into the Chamber of London the
Cities proportion for Rodds seized at 3 Cranes
Sep. 18th 1690 01 00 00

APRIL 6TH 1691.

It is ordered by this Court that William Loward shall be fined & is hereby fined vj^s : viij^d for inticeing away a Journeyman from Adrian Pearson.†

APRIL 11TH 1692.

This day Warden Evans, Mr ffielder and Mr Pollett were severally fined 6^s 8^d a piece for employing Journey-men without leave pursuant to the Orders.

* The beadle.

† Upper Warden 1673-75, and 1681-85.

APRIL 22ND 1700.

To Mr. Garder for Arresting Mr. Purnel
 Mr. Spinage & Mr. Parson 00 17 06

OCTOBER 11TH 1703.

Mr. Benjamin Evans & Mr. James Hering were fined
 13^s 4^d each for gathering money upon y^e search last
 Bartholomew Day without y^e company & consent of y^e
 þsnt Wardens.

JULY 10TH 1704.

The Wardens being Informed That Samuel Young &
 Robert Gray following y^e Trade of Basket-makers being
 not Quallified for the same This Court hath ordered &
 desired y^e Wardens to use such methods therein as they
 shall think fitt and to Indemnify them therein & the
 cost thereof.

OCTOBER 12TH 1724.

To my Lord Mayors Attorney To the Officers for
 sumonss & at severall meetings on the occation of
 sumoning members before his Lords^{pp} . . . £2. 5. 7½

APRIL 12TH 1742.

Paid at Guildhall for Summonss from the
 Court of Conscience * 0 8^s 4^d

After the middle of the 18th century the
 Company's powers of trade supervision gradually
 declined, though some efforts seem to have been
 made to revive them. By resolution of the Court
 held the 24th September, 1777, it was ordered :—

That the Rules and Orders contained in the Book
 of Orders for the Company and Craft of Basket Makers,

* First established by Act of Common Council in 1518, also
 styled "The Court of Requests," *vide* p. 121.

London, made Anno Domini 1569 be put in full force as far as it is possible against such persons as are free of this Company or who work in the same Crafte and will not conform to the orders therein contained.

The following extract from the Company's books show that further attempts to control the trade were made some years later :—

At a Court of Assistants of the Company of Basket Makers held at the Crown, Stationers Court, Ludgate Street, 30th April 1810, for the purpose of taking into consideration the circumstance of many Persons not free of this Company exercising the Trade of Basket Makers :—

Resolved unanimously that the following advertizement be inserted three times in the Day Times and Morning Advertiser public papers viz :—

Whereas at a Court of Assistants of the Basket Makers' Company held the 30th day of April 1810 it has been represented to this Court that a number of Persons now carry on the Trade of Basket Makers within the City of London and Suburbs and two miles thereof to the great detriment and injury of Persons duly apprenticed to the said Craft. This is therefore to give Notice that any Person or Persons who may be found offending therein will be prosecuted according to Law without further Notice. And all Persons desirous of being admitted to the Freedom of the said Company are hereby informed that they may apply for that purpose to Mr. Lilley, Solicitor, Peckham, Clerk to the said Company.

As late as the year 1828, yet another attempt seems to have been made to revive the old powers of the Company, for at a Court of Assistants held at the Guildhall on February the 8th of that year, it was resolved :—

That the Wardens be requested to cause such steps to be taken to compel all Foreigners, Strangers, Aliens and others who carry on the business of Basket Makers within this City with the permission of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen or otherwise to pay quarterage to this Company agreeable to the Rules of the same.

At a Court held at the same place on the 8th May, 1828, the Chairman reported:—

That he had applied to the Lord Mayor for a Summons against Bartlett a Basket Maker for not taking up his Freedom or paying Quarterage, who had referred him to the Chamberlain's Office where he had also applied and that it was there considered that the amount due from Bartlett was recoverable in the Court of Requests. Resolved that the Wardens be requested to summon Mr. George and Joseph Bartlett to the Court of Requests before the next Meeting.

At the next meeting of the Court held on the 10th July, 1828, the Chairman stated:—

That he had applied to the Court of Requests for a summons against the Defaulters in payment of the Quarterage and that the Clerk advised him not to proceed there. Resolved that the Wardens be respectfully solicited to wait upon the Chamberlain with the Clerk to solicit his assistance in obtaining the Quarterage due for non-performance.

An extract from the minutes of the next Court held the 14th August, 1828, marks the final stage in the effort to control the trade. The Chairman reported on that occasion that the Wardens had attended the Chamberlain and had been informed that the Court of Requests was the proper place in which to recover quarterage;

but the matter was not proceeded with,—probably because it was recognised that further action would be futile.

In the Second Report of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the state of the Municipal Corporations in England and Wales in 1837, it was stated that “The last instance of the Company exercising their control over the trade was in 1789 or 1799, when a poor Frenchman who sold baskets was ejected from the City.” The Company’s books contain no reference to this incident, and it would be interesting to know from what source the Commissioners obtained the information.

EXTRACTS FROM THE COMPANY'S BOOKS.

THE books saved from the Great Fire are ;—

(1) A Transcript of the Ordinances, etc., written in 1618.

(2) A Roll of Apprentices, commencing 1st June, 1639.

(3) A Quarter Book, commencing 8th September, 1661.

The Transcript, the oldest book preserved, is a small volume $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 10\frac{1}{2}''$, bound in parchment, and contains seventy-one vellum leaves beautifully engrossed. The quaintly worded petition of the Basket-makers, and the Ordinances previously set forth at length,* were copied from this book. The title page is as follows :—

1618.

BOLLES MAIOR.

This transcript was written in the yeare of our Lorde Jesus Christ 1618 and in the xvjth yeare of the Raigne of our Sovereigne L^d James Kinge of England & is in the tyme of the Wardenshipp of Robert Mounte and Richard Cobham, then Wardens.

Thomas Leeche, Clericus Scripsit.

* *Vide* p. 31, *et seq.*

The first page contains the oath * of the free-men of the craft, and the following transcripts appear on succeeding pages in the order given :—

(1) An Acte concerninge Strangers Artificers for takinge of Apprentices Journeymen and covenaut servante Made Anno 14° & 15° Henrici Octavi.

(2) An Acte concerninge Artificers and Straungers Anno vicesimo primo Henrici Octavi.

(3) The decree made in Sterr Chamber for Artificers Straungers by the Kinge moste Honorable Counsaile the xxth day of ffebruarie in the xxth yeare of the raigne of our Soveraigne Lord Kinge Henrie the viijth.

(4) An Act concerning exacions levied on Prentises Anno xxij° Henrici Octavi.

(5) An Acte concerning Straungers.

(6) The Booke of Orders for the Companie of Basket-makers London Año 1569 (followed by the further Orders granted in 1585 & 1610).

(7) Memorandum (a copy of the Orders of Common Council 12th October 3 Edward IV. (1463) and 22nd Oct. 30 Henry VIII. (1538)).

The copy of the Order of Common Council, of 1463, concludes with these words: "Vera copia teste, W. Marks," and that of 1538 with the words: "Vera Copia, Wat: Markes." In the latter several words have been erased.

The following is a copy of the first entry in the Roll of Apprentices :—

PRIMO DIE JUNII 1639.

John Hawkins sonne of John Hawkins of Blackwall in the County of Midd. Shippwright doth put himself

* *Vide* p. 137.

apprentice to Henry Adrianson Cittizen and Basket-maker of London for vij yeares Commencing from the feast day of The Nativitie of S. John Baptist next ensuing.

This book contains a list of the apprentices from the above date to October, 1824, but there is unfortunately a gap from 30th September, 1657, to 14th August, 1673, some twenty-eight pages having been left blank, and from 13th June, 1799, to 9th May, 1811, no indentures are recorded.

The Quarter Book beginning on the 8th September, 1661, contains entries of the elections of wardens and assistants, the admissions to the freedom, the bindings of apprentices, the wardens' accounts, and occasional orders of the Court. The books and records from that date to the present time have been preserved.

The following note, written by the Clerk in 1666 on the fly-leaf of the first Roll of Freemen, refers to the loss of the books and other effects in the Great Fire :—

The quarter books for the Company of Basket Makers London which had continued for above three score years were amongst other books and writings consumed by the dreadful and lamentable fire which began on the second of September 1666 and lasted four days whereby most of the late flourishing City of London within the Walls and most parts westward without the walls were destroyed and laid wast, amongst which the stately furniture of Guildhall was consumed, in one room of which building the Company of Basketmakers had for many years before the said fire kept their publike meetings and holden their Courts, and their Chest with

Carpets, Cushions, Silver spoons, bookes, writings and other things standing in the same room at the time of the said fire was burnt, to the loss and detremount of the said Brotherhood, and with great pains and scrutiny the names of the members therof hereafter written were reduced to the order and method following by me.*

January 10th 1666.†

Chris. Pym Clerk.

It is to the credit of Christopher Pym, that he made such worthy efforts on behalf of the Company during a trying period in the history of the City.

In view of the preceding statement made by the Clerk of 1666, the two following entries in the Wardens' Accounts, dated the 5th May, 1667, appear a little perplexing:—

| | |
|---|----------|
| Paid the Clarke for searching the old book for 60 years and writing the new quarter booke | 00 10 00 |
|---|----------|

| | |
|--|----------|
| Paid for carrying and preserving the Com- pany's bookes at the tyme of the fire . . . | 00 02 00 |
|--|----------|

The Roll of Apprentices and the Quarter Book commencing 1st June, 1639, and 8th September, 1661, respectively, were in use at the time of the Great Fire, and these, together with the Transcript of the Ordinances, were evidently

* A complete list of the Freemen followed.

† Previous to September, 1752, the legal year commenced on the 25th March, whilst the historical year began on the 1st of January, hence the apparent disagreement in the dates. A date between 1st January and 25th March usually written thus :—Jan. 10th 1666/7.

not at the Guildhall when the conflagration took place.

In the same Accounts is an entry referring to a mortgage:—

Paid Mr. Heath for a copy of the Mortgage,
the original and other leases being burnt by
the fire and for his attendance 01 00 00

The subjoined entries in the books seem to point to the fact that the Company possessed some property in the seventeenth century:—

JULY 31ST 1671.

Spent with Heath at receiveing the rent . . 00 00 10

OCTOBER 9TH 1671.

Received for rent 02 15 00

NOVEMBER 22ND 1671.

Lewis his rent 00 07 06

JANUARY 22ND 1671.

Of Mr Smith for rent due at Xpmas . . 02 15 00

Of Mr Heath in parte for the houses in East
Smithfeild 05 00 00

JANUARY 26TH 1671.

Mr Smith's Taxes and Lewis rent . . . 00 09 06

OCTOBER 7TH 1672.

Of Mr Heath in full for the purchase . . 40 00 00

JULY 29TH, 1673.

Paid the Clarke for goeing to Eastsmithfeild
and when the agreem^t was made with Mr
Heath and perusing the writings . . . 00 10 00

There are a few entries in the Wardens' Accounts of money lent and interest received for the same; these are recorded as follows:—

JANUARY 10TH 1661.

Received of Mr Ayleffe the interest of ffifty
pounds for six moneths due the 26th of
December last 01 10 00

JULY 7TH 1662.

Received then of Mr Ayleffe which was owe-
ing to this Company upon mortgage l^l and
6 moneths interest for the same due the
xxvjth of June last in all 51 10 00

BARTHOLOMEW DAY 1662.

Paid September 19th to a Scrivener for draw-
ing writeings upon putting out mony be-
longing to the Company 00 04 00

NOVEMBER 2ND 1662.

Spent at a meeting to put out parte of the
Company's money 00 01 02

NOVEMBER 16TH 1662.

Lent then to [] * the some of l^l at vi^l p
Cent 50 00 00

APRIL 27TH 1663.

Lent April xxviiith 1663 to Phillip Allatt
upon bond. 05 00 00

JULY 6TH 1663.

Received of Mr Warening 6 moneths interest
for l^l. 01 10 00

MAY 6TH 1664.

Lent to John Selwood bye order 05 00 00

JUNE — 1664.

Received May the iij^d of Phillip Allatt the
some of ffive pounds and twelve moneths
interest for the same 05 06 00

* Blank in the original.

EXTRACTS FROM THE COMPANY'S BOOKS 129

JULY 5TH 1665.

Of Mr Walwin the interest of 1^l for two yeares
due the xxvijth of May last . . . 06 00 00

JULY 9TH 1666.

Received of John Selwood the interest of v^l
for 12 moneths due the vith of May last . 00 06 00

JULY 15TH 1667.

Of John Selwood the interest of v^l for 12
moneths due the 6th of May last . . 00 06 00

OCTOBER 5TH 1668.

Received of Mr Selwood in pte of his debt . 00 10 00

OCTOBER 12TH 1668.

Mr Walwin the interest of 50^l for 12 moneths
due in May last 68 03 00 00

JULY — 1681.

Lent Mr Eaylby at interest 56 00 00

JANUARY — 1682.

Received of Mr Ealby that was oweing by
him fifety pounds and two yeares interest
for the same due the xiiij January 1682 . 56 00 00

In the first Quarter Book preserved, an interesting entry occurs, dated the 7th October, 1663. This is an inventory of the various effects handed over by the retiring Wardens, namely :—

Received of Mr Richard Earl and Mr Nicholas Perrey by Mr William Kitchen and Mr Ralph Allestry now Wardens. Three bookes of orders, One booke of Remembrance, One quarter booke, Two bookes of receipts and payments, One banner, Three leaden weights, One pewter standish, One obligacon from Robinson to the Company, One Dieper table Cloth ten Cushions, two

Carpetts, One table of orders, one houre glasse, one hammer, One little leatherne box with three lockes and keyes, In ready money Sixteene pounds, one shilling and foure pence. Seaventeene silver spoons, and a box for the poore given by Mr. Oliffe.

The following entries record the transfer of money, etc., to the new Wardens on the occasion of the old Wardens retiring from office :—

Memorandum that Mr Mathew Keene Warden of the company of Basketmakers of London did on the first day of May 1672 then deliver unto Mr Antyony Wats basketmaker the sum of fivfty seaven pounds seaventeene shillings and eieght pence with one silver spoone and a small trunke which I acknowledge to have received the day above sayed in trust and for the use of the company of basketmakers with a bond from Mr Heath scrivfner in East Smithfield of forty pounds to be payed the 27th day of September next Insuinge which some fivfty and seaven pounds seaventeene shillings and eiaget pence with the bond of forty pounds the trunke and one silver spoone I doe heare promise to pay and deliver unto Mr Warden Johnson and to Mr Robert Harding when it shall be demanded by them for the use of the company whereunto I have set my hand the day and yeare above writin.

The marke of Anthony W Watts.

Abrah. Johnson, witnes.

Samuel Keene }
Robert Harding } wittnes.

OCTOBER vijth 1672.

This day Mr Watts is discharged of the trust above mentioned ffor that he hath delivered the mony trunke and things above mentioned unto Mr Keene & Mr Johnson Wardens of the Company of Basketmakers.

Witnes

Chris. Pym, Clerke.

EXTRACTS FROM THE COMPANY'S BOOKS 131

SEPTEMBER 12TH 1673.

| | | |
|---|---|----------|
| Received of Mathew Keene and Abraham Johnson late Wardens by Adrian Peirson and Clement Peirson now Wardens in money | } | 45 19 08 |
|---|---|----------|

& two bonds for 50^l lent to David Hillar & John Plum-
ridge in all 95^l : 19^s : 08^d being the exceeds of their
Accompt Which Accompt was allowed off the day and
yeare abovesaid by we whose names are subscribed.
(not signed).

Extracts from the Company's books referring
to the attempts to obtain a charter, the grant
of the livery, the control of the trade, and
other special matters, have been set forth else-
where in these pages ; beyond these, the books
contain few entries other than bindings of
apprentices, admissions to the freedom, elections
of the wardens and assistants, and the wardens'
accounts. A few items gathered chiefly from
the latter source are here given :—

OCTOBER 24TH 1661.

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Paid for a dinner then | 01 15 06 |
|----------------------------------|----------|

JANUARY 24TH 1661.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Spent March 4th when a precept came about Corne | 00 02 06 |
| Paid for meal which was served into Cheap Ward according to a p ^r cept * | 00 14 00 |

JULY 7TH 1662.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Spent August xvi th at a meeting touching a precept | 00 01 08 |
|---|----------|

* *Vide* p. 75.

JULY 3RD 1671.

Received for one and twenty silver spoones
that were sold 07 09 00

AUGUST 24TH 1671.

Spent at Breakfast then 00 05 06

JULY 7TH 1672.

Paid for Printing the Act of Q Elizabeth . 00 06 00

AUGUST 26TH 1672.

Paid for a Truncke and two Cedar Balls . 01 12 06

ffor carrying the Truncke to Guildhall . . 00 01 00

Paid for the Coate of Armes 01 05 00

Paid for the Table of Orders and fframe and
Articles of Q Eliz : 00 16 00

27TH JULY 1675.

Paid for an Hower Glasse ij^s vj^d

7TH JUNE 1677.

Spent attending the Court of Aldreñ ij^s ij^d

Spent on Lord Majors day xi.

MAY 8TH 1683.

Paid for drawing severall Orders to be allowed }
by the Court of Aldreñ } 01 00 00

JANUARY 19TH 1684.

Paid for a Gowne 00 01 00

OCTOBER 12TH 1685.

Paid the Clarke his Salary this Quarter . . 00 05 00

Paid him for goeing in search 00 02 06

Paid him for writing over the Quarter Booke 00 05 00

Paid him for drawing and entering the last }
Wardens Accompts } 00 10 00

Paid him for a copy of the names of o^r }
Members, and their Quarteridge . . . } 00 05 00

EXTRACTS FROM THE COMPANY'S BOOKS 133

JULY 12TH 1686.

| | | | | |
|---|---|----|----|---|
| This day James Herring was admitted of the | } | 02 | 00 | 0 |
| Assistants and paid | | | | |
| Paid for swearing the Wardens | | 00 | 04 | 0 |
| Paid for mending the Trunke | | 00 | 01 | 6 |
| Paid for a copy of the Wardens Oath | | 00 | 02 | 0 |

APRILL 28TH 1690.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Paid the Hall rent * | 00 | 04 | 00 |
|--------------------------------|----|----|----|

OCTOBER 13TH 1690.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|----|----|--|
| Expent this day at ye White Lyon & Mr | | | | |
| Halls at Queens Hith | 00 | 17 | 06 | |

APRIL 15TH 1695

| | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|--|
| Expended in paying the Reckonning at the | | | | |
| White Lyon | 00 | 09 | 00 | |

APRIL 9TH 1704.

| | | | | |
|--|---|----|----|----|
| George Bolt by reason of his purchase of his | } | 1. | 0. | 0. |
| ffredom of the Citty of London was at his | | | | |
| request made free of this Company and paid | | | | |

JULY 12TH 1708.

| | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|--|
| Expent at a meeting of the Company to give | | | | |
| an accompt of y ^e abode of the members of | | | | |
| y ^e Company persuant to the Lord Mayor's | | | | |
| Precept | 0. | 8. | 0. | |

JANUARY 14TH 1711.

| | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|--|
| To the Clerk for swearing y ^e Wardens, 5 ^s ffor | | | | |
| Bartholomew day 5 ^s ffor y ^e Wardens Oaths | | | | |
| 5 ^s ffor an Ingraved Plate for y ^e Box 5 ^s ffor | | | | |
| y ^e Wardens accompts & Quarter Book 1 ^t , | | | | |
| in all | 2. | 0. | 0. | |

JULY 27TH 1713.

Ordered that Jeremiah Howells Quarteridge be forgiven him to this day upon the accompt of his service to her Majesty in her Army.

* *i.e.* The Guildhall.

AUGUST 28TH 1718.

It is this day Ordered and agreed That a Coate be provided and made for Thomas Hayes the Beadle of this Company, fitt and convenient for him at the charge of the Publick Stock of this Company And at the discrecon of the Wardens of the same Company as to the ffashion and Charge thereof.

OCTOBER 12 1719.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Paid for a Staff & Silver head for y ^e Companys } | £. s. d. |
| use } | 1. 16. 0. |

APRIL 11TH 1720.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Of severall persons for Quartridge since last } | 7. 13. 4. |
| Quarter Day } | |

JANUARY 8TH 1721.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Paid for 500 Printed Oaths and 2,000 sum- } | 1. 15. 0. |
| monses and paper } | |

JANUARY 19TH 1730.

This Day Mr Wm Slade junr was made free of this Company by Patrimony. He paid the usual fees & 1^s to the Poors Box.

JULY 14TH 1735.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Of Mr Gallington for S ^r W ^m Ogborns * quar- teridge (rece ^d by him of S ^r W ^{ms} Executor) . | 0. 16. 0. |
|---|-----------|

MAY 15TH 1736.

At this Court Thos. Hamnett of Water Lane in Blackfryars Cheesmonger was made free by Redemption & paid 1^{lb}.

APRIL 20TH 1742.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Paid for the Beadles Gown | 2. 18. 0. |
| Paid for the Silver Baskett | 2. 0. 0. |
| Paid for the Beadles Hatt | 0. 6. 0. |

* Prime Warden of the Company 1713-15; was knighted some few years later and elected Sheriff of the City of London in 1726. He was also a member of the Carpenters' Company, and served the office of Master of that Guild.

EXTRACTS FROM THE COMPANY'S BOOKS 135

FEBRUARY 27TH 1745.

At this Court Mrs. Ann Shergold widow of
Mr Mark Shergold late of the Parish of
St. Botolph Billingsgate was made free of
this Company & paid 1 0 0

The Company's accounts record monetary assistance given to the poor, and payments for the purpose of burials. Subjoined are a few extracts gathered at random :—

APRIL 27TH 1663.

Given old Trusse 00 02 06
Given goody Douglass 00 00 04

JULY 6TH 1663.

Given old Trusse then 00 03 00

JULY 21ST 1673.

Given to old Wilmot 00 05 00

OCTOBER 6TH 1673.

Given James Garrett and John Willmore . ix^s

JANUARY 19TH 1673.

Given John Rymes by the Companies order . x^s

APRIL 6TH 1674.

Given Widow Rymer by order v^s
Given to Widow Garrett then v^s

JULY 17TH 1677.

Given to bury William Cooper iiij^s

JULY 28TH 1679.

Given John Wilmore at severall times these
two yeares 00 16 00
Given Widow Garrett 00 08 00

JULY 30TH 1681.

Paid to John Wilmore and to other poore
persons for these Two yeares 03 02 00

OCTOBER 17TH 1681.

Given to severall poore people . . . 00 07 06

JULY 16TH 1683.

Given the poore . . . 00 05 00

OCTOBER 12TH 1685.

Given the Poor out of the Stocke . . . 00 07 00

SEPTEMBER 3RD 1689.Given to severall poor people at severall
times . . . 00 07 00OCTOBER 14TH 1689.

Given a poor man . . . 00 02 00

APRIL 28TH 1690.

Given Moses Bayley a poor man . . . 00 05 00

OCTOBER 13TH 1690.

Given Mr. Harper's Children . . . 00 05 00

FEBRUARY 2ND 1691.

Paid for a Coffin for Cornelius Adrian . . . 00 05 00

Given John Long in his Sicknesse and towards
the burying of him by order . . . 00 16 00JULY 10TH 1693.

Given Mr. Harper's son that is blind . . . 00 05 00

JULY 29TH 1693.

Paid towards the burying of John Geary . . . 00 10 00

OCTOBER 16TH 1693.

Given old Rymes . . . 00 03 06

APRIL 15TH 1695.

Expended at the buriall of old Rymes . . . 00 06 06

JULY 7TH 1718.Paid since last Quarter in y^e Companys business
& for Mr. Brainers ffunerall . . . 3 4 10

JULY 11TH 1720.

Ordered That Twenty shillings be paid and given to Mr. Hayes the Beadle for particular business done to this day & in regard to his age.

OCTOBER 10TH 1720.

Ordered That Twenty shillings be given to Thomas Hayes the Beadle to buy him necessaries.

JULY 10TH 1721.

Ordered That Thomas Hayes have Twenty shillings given him on Accompt of his Age and Poverty.

The Oath taken by the Freemen of the Company as recorded in the Transcript of Acts, Orders, and Regulations, written in 1618 by Thomas Leeche, the Clerk of that time, is here set forth :—

The Oath of every Freeman of this Craft.

Ye shall swear to bee true and faithfull to our Sovereigne Lord the Kinge of England now being and to his heires and Successors Kinges and Queenes of England after him, To the Companie and Craft of Basketmakers wherein you are informed either by apprenticehoode or otherwise. The secrets of y^e same Crafte yee shall well and faithfullie keepe, and not teache them to any man but to such as be free of the same Science. Also ye shalbe obedient unto almannor of Sumons whensoever yee shalbe warned by the Officer or Beadle. And to paye all manner of Duties as it becometh a Brother and a Freeman to doe. If yee knowe any evill or hurte to y^e same Crafte or that shoulde be hurtfull to y^e Wardens to shoue it, and let it to your power, So help you God.

At a Meeting of the Court held at The Two Brewers, London Wall, on the 27th September 1825, it was resolved :—

That in the Oath in future to be taken by every person on his admission to the Freedom of this Company the words :—

Also ye shall be obedient to all manner of Summonses
whensoever ye shall be warned by the Officer or
Beadle
be left out.

It was customary, until about the end of the eighteenth century, for the Clerk to be sworn on taking office. The form of the Oath was as follows :—

You swear that you will well and truly do and execute all such things as shall appertain and belong to your Office of Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Basket Makers of this City of London according to the Laws and Customs thereof. So help you God.

CONNECTION WITH THE IRISH SOCIETY.

IN the year 1609, James I. issued a state paper proclaiming the advantage to be obtained by the colonisation of certain escheated lands in the province of Ulster, in the north of Ireland. The public, nevertheless, did not take much interest in the scheme, and the King applied to the Corporation of the City of London to develop the colony. The Corporation obtained the necessary funds by a precept calling on the respective Companies to obtain their quota from the members—the usual method prevailing at that time. Licence to hold lands in mortmain was granted to the City Companies in 1615, and three years later the Irish Society (originally a Committee of the Corporation of the City of London) created manors and conveyed them to the City Companies. An assessment of £40,000 having been made upon them towards the development of the colony in Ulster, certain lands and possessions were divided into twelve portions and settled by lot amongst the great Companies. The minor Companies were joined to those of the great Companies who had not advanced one-twelfth of the whole sum,

the Basket-makers' Company being entitled by this procedure to a small sub-share in the Fishmongers' manor in Ulster. The respective interests in proportion to the assessments were as follows :—

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--------|
| <i>Fishmongers' Company</i> | . | . | 2260 |
| Leathersellers' Company | . | . | 950 |
| Plasterers' Company | . | . | 40 |
| Glaziers' Company | . | . | 32 |
| Basket-makers' Company | . | . | 32 |
| Musicians' Company | . | . | 20 |
| | | | <hr/> |
| | | | £3,334 |

The total, it will be seen, is one-twelfth of the whole amount contributed.

It is not known how the Fishmongers' Company came to acquire the small share allotted to the Basket-makers' Company, though it has been suggested that the latter did not claim possession when the division took place in 1618.

On the 16th July, 1832, a Bill was filed in Chancery by the Skinners' Company against the Irish Society, the Associated Companies and the Corporation of London, with the object of obtaining a declaration that the Irish Society were Trustees for the Companies in respect of rents and profits of ferries, fisheries and townlands in Ulster; these being the surplus properties which had not been divided among the Companies. The decision of the Court of Chancery (afterwards upheld by the House of

Lords) was that the powers granted to the Irish Society and the trusts reposed in them, were of a public nature independent of the private benefit of the City Companies.

The Basket-makers' Company was not a party to these legal proceedings, since it had repudiated any claim to this surplus under the hands and seals of the Wardens and Members of the Court of Assistants.

It may be interesting to record the fact that basket-making was included in the seventeen different trades which the Irish Society recommended should be introduced into Ulster.

INTEREST IN THE CRAFT.

THE Company endeavours to further the interests of the trade so far as its resources permit, chiefly by providing funds for the prizes awarded by the City and Guilds of London Institute in the basket-making section.

The following extracts from the Institute's Programme (Department of Technology) for the Session 1910-11 are given to show the scope of the basket-making syllabus:—

BASKET-WORK.

The Examination will be Written and Practical, and will be so arranged as to test the Candidate's skill in Basket-work in its various forms and applications, as well as his knowledge of the various materials commonly employed.

The examination will include—(1) Practical work ; (2) Written answers to questions ; (3) Specimen work done by the Candidate during the session preceding the examination.

In order to obtain a Certificate in either grade, Candidates will be required to pass in each of the parts 1, 2, and 3.

ORDINARY GRADE.

1. *The Written Examination* will include questions on the following subjects:—

(1) Osiers : different kinds and sizes, their qualities and uses.

The cultivation of osiers. Cutting, sorting, peeling, and buffing. Preparation for use. Staining, varnishing.

(2) Cane, whole and pithed: different kinds and sizes; qualities and uses. Preparation for use. Staining, varnishing.

(3) Tools and appliances: their uses.

(4) Round or oval slath. Upsetting, slewing, randing, fitching, pairing. Wales—three, four, five, or six stroke. Borders—plain three, four, five, or six stroke. Footing. End, or cross handles. Hasps and nooses. Ties and bands. Stakes, scalloms, bye-stakes, leagues, liners.

(5) The construction of ordinary round and oval baskets in osier and cane pith.

2. *Practical Examination*.—Each Candidate will be required, in the presence of the Superintendent, to make some specimen of round or oval work in osier or cane pith, as may be specified at the time of the examination.

Candidates will be required to bring with them the usual tools and appliances.

3. *Specimen Work*.—Each Candidate will be required, in the nine months preceding the examination, to make and complete in all particulars, one specimen of round, and one specimen of oval work.

The design, construction, and execution of the specimen work will be considered, also any originality of workmanship that is useful or practical.

HONOURS GRADE.

1. *The Written Examination* will include questions on the following subjects:—

(1) Process of making Skeins—cleaving, shaving, up-righting. Material other than osier used in fancy work. Staining, varnishing.

(2) Construction of upright round linen, or similar basket; bird-cage, round or square; chicken crate; bottle and carboy casing.

(3) Square basket: preparing bottom, staking and upsetting, for any given size, both with and without corner sticks. The corner border.

(4) Borders: plain, plaited or braided, rope or cable scallop, tracking.

(5) The construction of a fitted garden chair, fancy chair, lounge chair, afternoon tea stand with two tiers, afternoon tea table with two or three trays.

(6) The construction of picnic, luncheon and tea baskets. Partition baskets, covered and open; quart and pint wine baskets; champagne baskets, sample baskets, acid baskets, baskets for glasses, etc.

(7) Pony chaise bodies; motor car bodies.

(8) Dress baskets; travelling hampers; pigeon baskets.

(9) Letter and waste paper baskets.

2. *Practical Examination*.—Each Candidate will be required, in the presence of the Superintendent, to make any ordinary specimen of Basket-work that may be specified at the time of the examination.

3. *Specimen Work*.—Each Candidate will be required, in the nine months preceding the examination, to make and complete in all particulars a specimen of advanced basket-work, in the construction of which other materials in addition to osiers may be used, *e.g.* hazel, straw plait, plaited rush, cane, plain or enamelled, etc. The exercise should be so selected as to show the Candidate's ability in design and construction, and the application of osier weaving to purposes beyond the ordinary forms of basket-work—travelling trunks, chairs, tables, stands and the like.

Originality of design or workmanship will be especially considered.

At the East London Trades, Arts and Industries Exhibition, held at the People's Palace in 1896, the Basket-making Section of the Exhibition was under the auspices of the Company, and thus divided:—

- I. Exhibits of Manufacturing and Trading Firms.
- II. Work of Individual Craftsmen.
- III. Work of Individual Students and Apprentices.

In order to encourage the craft of English Basket-making, and as an inducement to individual Basket-makers (whether workmen or apprentices) to compete, the Court of the Company decided to give Diplomas of Merit to the Exhibitors of the best specimens in Section I., and offered money prizes in Sections II. and III. For that purpose they adopted the following classification in each division: Class I. Whole Rod Work. Class II. Skein Work. Class III. Fancy Work (including Straw, Rush, Esparto, String, Cane, etc.).

The factors determining the bestowal of the prizes were: For each 1st Prize, "originality of design and excellence of workmanship;" for each 2nd Prize, "excellence of workmanship;" and for each 3rd Prize, "careful and good workmanship." Numerous entries were received, thus showing the considerable interest evoked by the competition.

In past years the Company has shown occasional interest in the subject of osier-planting in England and in the encouragement of village classes in Basket-work; lack of funds has, however, prevented that intimate connection with the trade which it is so desirable to maintain.

From 1846 to 1873 the Company was in

danger of extinction, but the energy of a small number of active members of the Court was instrumental in reviving it from a semi-moribund condition. The Rev. P. H. Ditchfield wrote concerning this effort: "This is greatly to the credit of the few energetic members that have rescued and restored to active life this ancient corporation."

In referring to this matter, it should be placed on record that the Company is greatly indebted to the White family, whose connection with the Guild dates back to the early part of the eighteenth century. The last member of this old family of Basket-makers who took an active interest in the Company's welfare was Mr. James George White, J.P., C.C., Deputy Alderman of Walbrook. He served the Office of Prime Warden in 1882-83, and for several years filled the position of Honorary Clerk. His decease occurred in 1906, and a Tablet to his memory has been placed in St. Swithin's Church by his many friends.

Though never wealthy, the Worshipful Company of Basket-makers is an old institution with worthy traditions and a long record of earnest endeavour to benefit an ancient British industry. During the last thirty-five years the position of the Company has steadily improved, while its growing influence and increasing membership give encouragement to the hope that renewed efforts in the interest of the trade will be made.

APPENDIX A.

DESCRIPTION OF BASKET-MAKING IN 1747.

FROM "A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ALL TRADES,"

PRINTED BY T. WALLER.

THOUGH this seems to be an inferior hidden Sort of a Handicraft Business, there is a good deal of Variety in it; and is not without its Niceties, too, as evidently appears by the considerable Figure their Wares make in the Turners' Shops, (and the many Uses they are applied to) who are the principal Dealers in them, after the Makers. Most, if not all, Baskets are made of Willow Twigs, Osiers, or Rods, either green with the Peel on, or Stript, which make them appear white; they are also split, shaved, and dyed for the finer Works. The working them green is the more considerable Branch, especially for the Gardeners' Use; for many Masters in this way not only follow the Trade of Basket-making, and employ many Hands, but rent several Waters for the sake of the Osier Plantations, which often produce not only sufficient for themselves, but a great many to spare.

This part of the Work requires not much else besides Strength and Application, a Journeyman in which can earn from 10 to 20^s a Week. The White Work does not require so much Strength, but more Invention and Nicety, at which many Women are employed in making the smaller Wares.

They have 5 or 10^l with an Apprentice and their Hours of working are from six to nine.

About 100^l will set a Master up in a pretty Manner; but some of them employ more.

They are a Company by prescription only; but were considerable enough in the Year 1463 in the Reign of King Edward IV., to have a certain Place allotted them for their keeping Shops, then called the Manor of Blanch-Appleton, situated at the North-East End of Mark-lane, in Fenchurch Street.

They have neither Livery * nor Hall; but meet to do their Business where and when their Warden appoints, commonly once a Quarter, when they have a Feast.

There is no Record in the College of any Arms granted to them.

* The Livery was granted seventy-eight years later.

APPENDIX B.

LIST OF THE WARDENS.

- * Clement Holmes
- * Adrian Adrianson
- * William Addersburie
- * William Weatlie
- * Thomas Oliffe
- * John Clarke

| | <i>Upper Warden.</i> | | <i>Under Warden.</i> |
|------|----------------------|--|----------------------|
| 1610 | Robert Brackin . . | | Robert Mounte |
| 1618 | Robert Mounte . . | | Richard Cobham |
| 1623 | Richard Bingham | | |

With the exception of the above, the names of the Wardens prior to 1661 are not known, the records having been lost.

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------|--|-----------------|
| 1661-63 | Richard Earl . . | | Nicholas Perry |
| 1663-65 | William Kitchen . . | | Ralph Allestry |
| 1665-67 | Edmund Peirson . . | | Matthew Keene |
| 1667-69 | Anthony Watts . . | | Adrian Peirson |
| 1669-71 | Robert Harding . . | | Thomas Hall |
| 1671-73 | Matthew Keene . . | | Abraham Johnson |
| 1673-75 | Adrian Peirson . . | | Clement Peirson |
| 1675-77 | Thomas Hall . . | | Richard Reading |
| 1677-79 | Robert Harding . . | | James Ward |
| 1679-81 | Anthony Watts . . | | James Dickenson |
| 1681-85 | Adrian Peirson . . | | Jacob Chandler |
| 1685-86 | Richard Reading . . | | William Fielder |
| 1686-87 | William Fielder . . | | Phillip Allett |

* Years of office unobtainable. In the Petition of 1610 for further Ordinances they are referred to as having been *heretofore* Wardens.

| | <i>Upper Warden.</i> | <i>Under Warden.</i> |
|---------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1687-89 | James Dickenson . | Samuel Puller |
| 1689-91 | Phillip Allett . | John Alcott |
| 1691-93 | John Alcott . | Benjamin Evans |
| 1693-95 | Benjamin Evans . | John Berrey |
| 1695-97 | John Johnson . | Thomas Board |
| 1697-99 | John Berrey . | John Dobbs |
| 1699-01 | John Dobbs . | William Pollett |
| 1701-03 | James Herring . | Isaac Puller |
| 1703-05 | William Pollett . | Stephen Goldsmith |
| 1705-07 | Stephen Goldsmith . | William Costen |
| 1707-09 | William Costen . | John Cole |
| 1709-11 | John Cole . | William Hancock |
| 1711-13 | William Hancock . | William Ogborn |
| 1713-15 | William Ogborn * | Capt. John Kelson |
| 1715-17 | Capt. John Kelson . | Francis Watts |
| 1717-19 | Francis Watts . | William Board |
| 1719-21 | John Gallington . | Thomas Bolter |
| 1721-23 | Benjamin Johnson . | Fulkes Wenham |
| 1723-25 | Fulkes Wenham . | Benjamin Payne |
| 1725-27 | Thomas Bolter . | James Bull |
| 1727-29 | Benjamin Payne . | Benjamin Bechenoe |
| 1729-31 | James Bull . | Benjamin Bechenoe |
| 1731-33 | Benjamin Bechenoe . | William Deal |
| 1733-35 | William Deal . | { Jethro Osborne Richard Cutter |
| 1735-37 | Richard Cutter . | Peter Buck |
| 1737-39 | Peter Buck . | Henry Wilson |
| 1739-41 | Henry Wilson . | { Timothy Berry John Fuller |
| 1741-43 | Henry Wilson . | Peter Deane |
| 1743-45 | William Slade . | William Howson |
| 1745-47 | William Howson . | Nathaniel Jeynes |
| 1747-49 | Nathaniel Jeynes . | Benjamin Bechenoe |
| 1749-51 | Benjamin Bechenoe . | William Boulter |
| 1751-53 | William Boulter . | William Handleby |

* Elected Sheriff and knighted in 1726, *vide* p. 134, and note.

| | <i>Upper Warden.</i> | <i>Under Warden.</i> |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1753-55 | William Handleby . | John Clark |
| 1755-57 | John Clark . . | Henry Willson, Junr. |
| 1757-59 | Henry Wilson, Junr. | Robert Samuel |
| 1759-61 | Robert Samuel . | William Spinnage |
| 1761-63 | William Spinnage . | Edward White |
| 1763-65 | Edward White . | John Radford |
| 1765-67 | John Radford . . | Benjamin Hamnett |
| 1767-69 | Benjamin Hamnett . | Robert Kemshead |
| 1769-71 | Robert Kemshead . | John Haveil |
| 1771-73 | John Haveil . . | William Conyers |
| 1773-75 | Richard Hollingsworth | Richard Allum |
| 1775-77 | Henry Wilson . . | John Spinnage |
| 1777-79 | Richard Hollingsworth | Benjamin Philips |
| 1779-81 | Benjamin Hamnett . | Benjamin Philips |
| 1781-83 | Benjamin Hamnett . | Thomas Allum |
| 1783-85 | Willm. White, Senr. | Thomas Allum |
| 1785-1807 | Thomas Allum . | Robert Burch |
| 1807-09 | Benjamin Philips . | William Hipper |
| 1809-19 | Edward White * | Richard Allum |
| 1819-24 | Richard Allum . | Thomas Okey |
| 1824-26 | Thomas Okey . . | Henry Richard Millett |
| 1826-29 | George Tucker . | John Harris |
| 1829-31 | William Mallard . | Samuel Walden |
| 1831-33 | Thomas Okey . . | Edward White, Junr. |
| 1833-41 | Samuel Walden . | Henry Richard Millett |
| 1841-46 | John Harris . . | Edward White |

| | <i>Prime Warden.</i> | <i>Junior Warden.</i> |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1846-81 | Edward White † . | Edward White, Junr. |
| 1881-82 | Edward White, Junr. | James George White |
| 1882-83 | James George White | William Thomas Parnly Montgomery |

* Son of Edward White, Upper Warden, 1763-65.

† Son of Edward White, Upper Warden, 1809-19.

| | <i>Prime Warden.</i> | <i>Junior Warden.</i> |
|-----------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1883-84 | Wm. Thos. Parmly Montgomery | Thomas John Robins |
| 1884-85 | Thomas John Robins | Alexander Millar |
| 1885-86 | Alexander Millar . | William Philip Nettle- ship |
| 1886-87 | William Philip Net- tleship. | Richard Stevens Sly, J.P. |
| 1887-88 | Richard Stevens Sly, J.P. | Edward James Anning, C.C. |
| 1888-89 | Edward James An- ning, C.C. | John George Dibble |
| 1889-90 | John George Dibble | Charles Kendall |
| 1890-91 | Charles Kendall . | Edward Adams Perrin |
| 1891-92 | Edwd. Adams Perrin | John Whale |
| 1892-93 | John Whale . . . | William Parson Tap- per |
| 1893-94 | William Parson Tap- per | James Palmer Pike |
| 1894-95 | James Palmer Pike . | Ambrose Andrew Tap- per |
| 1895-96 | Ambrose Andrew Tapper | William Herbert Har- rison |
| 1896-97 | William Herbert Harrison | Thomas John Robins |
| 1897-98 | Thomas John Robins | Richard Stevens Sly, J.P. |
| 1898-99 | Richard Stevens Sly, J.P. | Edward Knott |
| 1899-1900 | Edward Knott. . . | James George Unite |
| 1900-01 | James George Unite | Henry Edwin Sam- brook |
| 1901-02 | Henry Edwin Sam- brook | Richard Thomas Sam- brook |
| 1902-03 | Richard Thomas Sambrook | George Henry Finch |
| 1903-04 | George Henry Finch | John Whittle Harvey |
| 1904-05 | John Whittle Harvey | William Philip Goosey |

| | <i>Prime Warden.</i> | <i>Junior Warden.</i> |
|---------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1905-06 | William Philip Goosey | Frederick Dunn |
| 1906-07 | Frederick Dunn . | Frederick Henry Pullen |
| 1907-08 | Frederick Henry Pullen . . . | Alfred Double, C.C., J.P. |
| 1908-09 | Alfred Double, C.C., J.P. | Horace Robert Spence |
| 1909-10 | Horace Robert Spence | Palmer Bryant |
| 1910-11 | Palmer Bryant | Reuben Henry Frost |

APPENDIX C.

LIST OF THE CLERKS.

| | | |
|----------------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| 1618 | ———— | Thomas Leeche |
| 1666 | ———— | Christopher Pym |
| DATE OF APPOINTMENT. | | |
| 1684 | 14th April | James Oliver |
| 1694 | 17th Sept. | Needler Webb |
| 1730 | 13th July | William Benson |
| 1737 | 9th Jan. | Joshua Cox |
| 1746 | 14th July | William Boulter |
| — | — | Thomas Allum * |
| 1767 | 13th July | Richard Allum |
| 1808 | 15th Sept. | Samuel Isaac Lilly |
| 1829 | 7th Jan. | Thomas Theobalds † |
| 1829 | 12th Feb. | Frederick Temple ‡ |
| 1838 | 19th Feb. | William Walker § |
| 1873 | 24th Oct. | Edward White |
| 1878 | 30th Oct. | Edward White, Jr. |
| 1883 | 14th Nov. | James George White, C.C., J.P. |
| 1906 | 6th June | Edwin Whitley Smith |
| 1907 | 13th Feb. | Henry Hodgkinson Bobart |

* Mentioned as clerk in 1761, but his appointment is not recorded.

† Of the Chamberlain's Office, Guildhall.

‡ Keeper of the Guildhall.

§ Of the Chamberlain's Office, Guildhall.

|| Deputy of the Ward of Walbrook.

APPENDIX D.

LIST OF APPRENTICES WHO PRESENTED
SILVER SPOONS TO THE COMPANY.

| Date. | Name. | Mark. |
|-------|------------------|-----------|
| 1661 | William Scott | W.S. |
| " | Philemon Cobham | P.C. |
| " | Thomas Hayes | T.H. |
| " | Isaac Mackerson | I.M. |
| " | John Day | I.D. |
| " | William Penry | W.P. |
| 1662 | John Long | I.L. |
| " | Thomas Walter | T.W. |
| " | John Wills | I.W. |
| " | John Bannister | I.B. |
| " | Stephen Heather | (no mark) |
| 1663 | James Boteler | I.B. |
| " | Nathaniel Ward | (no mark) |
| " | John Haynes | I.H. |
| " | Richard Jones | (no mark) |
| " | Joseph Williams | " |
| 1664 | George Ball | G.B. |
| " | Richard West | R.W. |
| " | Richard fflagott | R.F. |
| " | Adrian Hobbs | A.H. |
| " | Daniel Wood | (no mark) |
| 1665 | Thomas Greene | T.G. |
| " | John Rymer | I.R. |
| 1667 | John Sheppeard | I.S. |
| " | Samuel Puller | (no mark) |
| " | Abraham Wilson | A.W. |
| " | Robert White | R.W. |
| 1668 | Robert Aldridge | (no mark) |
| " | Rowland fry | " |
| " | John Harris | " |
| " | John Tythe | " |
| " | Andrew Harding | " |
| " | Joseph fellows | " |
| " | James Herring | " |
| 1669 | John Birkham | " |
| 1670 | Thomas Gregory | T.G. |
| " | Abraham Arnold | A.A. |
| " | Thomas Benwell | T.B. |

APPENDIX E.

ARMS OF THE COMPANY.

No record of a grant to the Basket-makers has been found in the College of Arms, and it is not known when those adopted by the Company were first assumed. In "A Complete Body of Heraldry" compiled by Joseph Edmondson F.S.A. in 1780 they are thus described :—

"Arms. Az: three cross baskets in pale ar. between a prime and an iron on the dexter, and a cutting-knife and an outsticker on the sinister of the second."

"(N.B. The prime and cutting-knife are in chief, and the iron and outsticker in base; they are the tools made use of in the business.)"

"Crest. On a wreath a cradle, therein a child, rocked at the head by a girl and at the feet by a boy, both vested, all proper."

"Motto. Let us love one another."

Edmondson adds: "This account of the Basket Makers Arms &c. I received from the Clerk of the Company with a print of the same, which is the ornament to their summonses, &c."

The Arms of the Company are to be seen in the Guildhall Council Chamber, on one of the stained glass screens which divide the Chamber from the corridor; they are also painted in their proper colours on the walls of the lobby leading from the Great Hall to the Council Chamber.

OLD ARMS OF THE BASKET MAKERS' COMPANY.



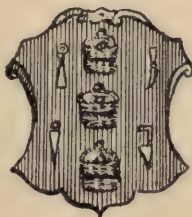
A



B



C

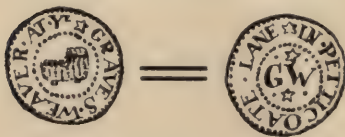


D

- A. Reproduced from the form of Oath printed in 1721.
 B. Reproduced from the Book of Ordinances printed in 1827.
 C. Reproduced from "Maitland's History of London" (1772),
 vol. i., p. 1242.
 D. Reproduced from "Seal's Map of Middlesex," *circa* 1750.

APPENDIX F.

BASKET MAKER'S TOKEN.

FACSIMILE OF GRAVES WEAVER'S TOKEN
(1648-1671).

(From the Beaufoy Collection in the Guildhall Museum.)

GRAVES WEAVER AT YE — WICKER CRADLE (in the field).
Rev. IN PETTICOATE LANE. (In the field) G.W. (Weaver was
 a Basket Maker, the cradle being the crest of the Basket
 Makers' Company.) *

* J. H. Burn's Descriptive Catalogue of London Traders' Tokens, 1855.

APPENDIX G.

RATES OF MERCHANDISE OR SUBSIDY OF
TONNAGE.

ACT OF TONNAGE & POUNDAGE 12 CHAS. II.

Rates inward.

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Basket rods, the bundle | vj ^s viij ^d |
| Baskets, weat hand baskets or sports the dozen | iiij ^s iv ^d |

APPENDIX H.

LIST OF TAVERNS AND COFFEE HOUSES
WHERE THE BASKET MAKERS HELD
THEIR COURTS FROM 1667 TO 1826.

- The Guildhall Coffee House.
- The King's Head, Ivy Lane.
- The Woolpack, Hart Street.
- North's Coffee House, King Street.
- The Plough Tavern, Blackwall.
- The White Hart Inn, Kingsland Road.
- The Temple Coffee House, Temple Bar.
- The Fryar, Playhouse Yard.
- The Horns, Thames Street.
- The Bell, Basinghall Street.
- The Blue Ball, Playhouse Yard, Black Friars.
- The Rose and Ball, Bennets' Hill, Doctors' Commons.
- The White Lyon in Thames Street.
- The Green Dragon, St. Andrew's Hill.
- The Old Parr's Head, Little Knighttrider Street.
- The Glaziers' Arms, Water Lane, Blackfriars.
- The Crown Coffee House, Stationers' Court, Ludgate Street.
- The Two Brewers, London Wall.

APPENDIX I.

STOW'S SURVEY (STRYPE) 1720.

“ HERE shall follow a Scheme of the Companies, drawn up many years ago by Mr. Richard Smith, some time Secondary of the Compter, whereby, under one view, may be seen their order, and the particular Streets or Lanes where the respective Halls stand, or stood: With a note of such Societies as had no Hall, or no Livery, or both.

The Companies or Societies of the Freemen of the City of London; their order with the Places where their several Halls are situate; Together with the latter Companies, that Have no halls, or no Liveries.”

| Order of the Companies. | Hall, where situate. |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 54 Basket-makers no livery.* | Broad Street. |

* The Company at the present time ranks 52nd in order of precedence. The Livery was granted in 1825.

APPENDIX J.

EXTRACTS FROM THE HUGUENOT SOCIETY'S
RETURNS OF ALIENS.*Lay Subsidy. November, 32 Henry VIII. [1540].*

ESTSMYTHFELDE.

Rumbell, Basketmaker iiij^d

THE PARYSHE OF SAYNT MARY HILL.

Vxor Goddeffreye (Goodwife Godfrey)
basketmaker, in goodes x^{li} . . . x^s*Lay Subsidy. 30 April, 3 Edward VI. [1549].*

SEYNT ANDREWES PARISSHE.

| | | |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| Jasper Alnold (Arnold) | xl ^{li} | iiij ^{li} |
| Garret Mathew | | |
| John Johnson | | |
| Corneles Gouertson | | |
| Nycholas Nyse | | |
| Barow Johnson | | |
| Mathew Farley | | |
| Henry Farley and Arnold Garetson seruantes with Jesper Arnold . . . | | |
| Corneles Johnson, basketmaker | viiiij ^{li} | viiiij ^s |
| Anthony Williamson, basketmaker . . . | | viiij ^d |

*Dutch Church, Registers of Members (commencing
circa 1550).*

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| Andries Jansen | } | BASKET MAKERS. |
| Antonis Willekens | | |
| Burcher Janson | | |
| Cornelis Goyertsoen | | |
| Dierick Gheeraerdtsen | | |
| Jan Muelener | | |
| Pieter Cornelissoen | | |
| Segher Diericksoen.* | | |

State Papers, Domestic, Elizabeth. 22 June 1561.

(Nomina eorum qui se adiecerunt Ecclesiæ Germanicæ quæ est Londini).

Bucherus Janson, sportarius, inseruit cuipiam Anglo.

Joannes Zebedej, sportularius, inuenis, inseruiens Anglo cuipium.

Joannes Willhems, sportularius, inseruiens Anglo, sine liberis.

Jacobus Hendricksoon, sportularius, inseruiens Anglo cuipiam.

Laurentius Christiaen, sportularius.

Lansdowne MS.

Account of Strangers in the several parts of London and Westminster. At Easter 1567.

AT FRESH WHARF.

Clays van Brogen, within (the house of) Adrian Adrenson,† basketmaker, 1 yere. Dowch, not denizein.

AT THE STONE-HOWSE IN PHILPOT LANE.

James Baylye, and Mary his wif. 2 yeres. In Richard Grainger, basketmaker, his howse. Dowch, not denizein.

* One of the twelve Basket Makers who entered into recognisance not to imperil the City by fire in 1539, *vide* p. 21.

† One of the Wardens of the Company, *vide* p. 149.

TOWER WARDE.

Thomas Bisshopp, basket maker. Dutchman. No denisen.

Lansdowne MS.

The Answer and Certificate of the Lord Mayor, Sir Thomas Rowe, re number of Strangers, &c., 1568.

THE PARISHE OF ST. MARYE HILL.

John Myller, borne in Clevelande, basketmaker, denyson; of the Dowche church.

THE PARISHE OF S. GEORGE AND S. MARGETTES, IN
PUDDINGLANE.

James Adrian, denyson, basketmaker, borne in Holland, of the Englishe church.

THE PARISHE OF ST ANDROWES IN ESTCHEPE.

John Lyon, denyson, basketmaker, borne in Honygo, and Katheryne his wif; of the Englishe church.

Arnolde Giles, denysen, basketmaker, borne in Brabant, Jacamy his wif, and William Waggyner and Cornelis Wart, his servantes; all of the Dowche church.

Angell Mathewe, denyzen, basketmaker, borne at Leavin, and Catheryne his wif; of the Englishe church; and Cornelis Peterson and Derick Lynse, his servantes; of the Dowche church.

Mathew Faylande, denyzen, basketmaker, born at Cullen, and Margarette his wif, and Gyles Beche and Mathewe Castell his servantes; of the Dowche church.

Lambard Garratt, denizen, basketmaker, borne in Luke; of the Englishe church.

Peter Foxe, basketmaker, borne in Freselond, and Marten Slepyn, servantes to Androwe Banberye,* Englishman; of the Dowche church.

John Beche, basketmaker, borne in Luke, and John Thomas, servantes to Adrian Adreanson;* of the Dowche church.

* *Vide* notes, p. 168.

John Spicer, [basketmaker],* borne in Gaunte; Tymothe Lees, borne in Holland, of the Dowche church; and Mathewe Spratt, borne in Valencine; all three basketmakers, seruantes to † Richard Robinson, Englishman; the same Mathewe Spratt goethe to the Frenche church.

John Adilson, borne at Granau, John Cornelis, borne in Hollande, and Garrett Backhowse, borne in Facum-borowe; basketmakers, seruantes, to John Johnson; of the Dowche church.

THE PARISH OF ST KATHERYNE CHRISTCHURCHE.

Peter Cornelius, denizen, basketmaker, borne in Hollande, and his ij children; of the Englishe church; and Garrett Deroy, denyson, basketmaker, of the Dowche church; tenante to Richard Rowe.

SAINTE MARTYNS PARISHE.

Ellys Foster, Ducheman, a basket maker; paiethe rent to William Cowerley, dyer.

SAINTE JAMES PARISHE.

Anthony Devolo, a Duchman, a basketmaker; he is a denizen, and hathe a wif, and ij children; he paieth his rent to Robert Waryn, mynstrell, for the behofe of John Jones, merchauntailor, and goeth to the parishe church.

THE WARDE OF PORTSOKIN.

Staffeld van Felmont, [denizen], ‡ a basketmaker, and Mary his wif, borne in Andwarp, goethe to the Dutche church, and paiethe rent to Brand, the goldsmith.

IN THE MYNNERIES.

James Harrison, a basketmaker, borne in Holland, tenant to John Hide; he is of the parishe church.

* Struck out.

† "John Johnson" struck out; see next entry.

‡ Struck out.

State Papers, Domestic, Elizabeth.

Return of Strangers in London, May 1571.

ALL HALLOWS STAININGE.

John Symsin, basket maker, xxx yeres in London, and
iij yeres in this ward, borne in Gyllike. Douch.

Mathew Barnard, baskett maker, borne in Holland,
hathe bene in this warde xv yeaeres. Douch.

SAINTE BOTHOLPHES.

Matice de Prue, basketmaker, * * * * *, cam into
Englande iiij yeaeres nowe past. Burgonion.

ALGATE WARDE.

Peter Cornelys, a basketmaker, and freedenizein,
borne in Southlande, and hath byn here these xxx^{tie}
yeares Dowche.

SAINTE ANDROWE HUBBARDES PARISH.

John Lyon, dennyzein, and basketmaker, and Katheryne
his wyfe, Dowche borne, have byn in England and in this
warde xxviiij yeaeres: and Henry Hewcart his seruante, of
the same nacion. Douche.

Arnold Giles denysein, and basketmaker, and Jannekyn
his wyfe, have byn in Englande and in this warde twentie
yeaeres, and hath to servaunt Cornelius Foster, all of the
Dowche nacion. Douche.

Haunce Pefrom, basketmaker, servant to one Thomas
Robinson,* of the Douche nacion, hath byn in England
and in this warde three yeaeres. Douche.

Angell Mathewe, widowe, denysein, and basketmaker,
and hath byn in England and in this warde xx^{tie} yeaeres;
and hath a servaunt, of the Douche nacion bothe, called
Direck Lynsey. Douche.

Mathewe Faylan, denyzein, and basketmaker, and
Margarett his wyfe, of the Douche nacion, and hath byn

* One of the eleven Basket Makers enfranchised in 1569, *vide*
p. 41.

in England xx^{tie} yeares, and in this parishe xvj yeares, and William Waganer his servaunt, of the same nacion.

Douche.

Lambert Garret, dennyzein, and basketmaker, of the Douch nacion, hath byn in England xxx^{tie} yeares, and in this warde xx^{tie} yeares; within whome soiourneth one Baltizar a taillour, and Douche borne.

Douch.

Mathew Desolarvam, basketmaker, Italian, hath byn in England and in this warde vj yeares, and is servaunte to one Awdrian Awdrianson.

Italian.

VINTREY WARDE.

Anthonye Vanderwalls, Duchman, a basketmaker, free denizen: he haith an Englishe woman to his wif, and haith three children, and haith byne here thes xv yerres.

Duch.

TOWER WARDE.

John Mud,* Duchman, a denizen, and a basketmaker, and haith byn here xlvj^{ty} yerres.

Duch.

Andrewe Johnson, basketmaker, denizen of Luke Land, and haith byne here xl^{tie} yerres.

Duch.

State Papers, Domestic, Elizabeth.

Report of the Search of all the Strangers within London and Southwark, and the Liberties thereof, November 10th, 1571.

ALHALLOWES STAYNYNGES.

Barnarde Mattys, basketmaker, Douchman, borne in Deluke, came into this realme about lx yerres past.

SAINT ANDROWES PARYSHE IN ESCHEAPE.

John Lyon, householder, basketmaker, and dennyzein, born at Hennego, and Katheryne his wyfe, born in

* Evidently an old man who had exercised his craft in the City before the Company was established, and who was no doubt one of the Foreign Basket Makers mentioned in the Orders of 1585, and described as "Father Mude," *vide* p. 43.

Clevelande, hath dwelt here xxx^{tie} yeares, and come to there parishe church.

Peter Fox, baskettmaker, borne in Freselande, and Marten Sleper, basketmaker, borne in Favken, borrowght, bothe servaunts to Androwe Banberye,* basketmaker, and haue remayned with hym vj yeares, and go to the Douche church.

Mathew Dyslar, basketmaker, borne in Valencia, servant to Adreanson,† and hath remayned here v yeares, and resorteth to the Douche church.

Arnolde Geyles, househoulder, basketmaker, and dennyzein, born in Wessell, in the country of Horne, and Jacamyn his wyfe, haue byn here xxx^{tie} yeres; and Cornelys Foster, his servaunte, borne in Brabant, and hath byn here viij yeares: and are of this parishe church.

Mathew Deproyne, born at Hennego, and John Fever, basketmakers, servauntes to Richarde Robynson,‡ haue byn here iiij yeares, and resortes to the Frenche church. Haunce Pyffron, his servaunte also, and basketmaker, born in Gaunt, hath byn here v yeares and is of the Douche church.

John Vandelles, baskettmaker, borne in Brabant, hath byn in Englande v yeares, and cam to work his occupation, and is servaunte with John Johnson,§ basketmaker.

Widowe Mathew, basketmaker, borne in Falkenborowe, and hath dwelt in Englande xx^{tie} yeares; and Derick Lawrance, her servaunte, hath byn her vj weekes, and is of this parishe.

Lambert Garrett, basketmaker, borne at Hennego, in

* One of the eleven English Basket Makers enfranchised in 1569, *vide* p. 41.

† Probably one of the Wardens of the Company, *circa* 1600, and Churchwarden of St. Andrew Hubbard, *vide* p. 17.

‡ One of the eleven English Basket Makers enfranchised in 1569, *vide* p. 41.

§ Probably one of the eleven English Basket Makers enfranchised in 1569, *vide* p. 41.

Flaunders, hath dwelt here xvj yeares, and goeth to his parishe church.

Widowe Faylande, basketmaker, borne in Brabant, and hath dwelt in Englande xx^{tie} yeares, and resorteth to her parishe church.

SAINTE SAUIORS PARISHE.

Eldricke Arnold, of Colyn of thage of xxvj^{ty} yeres, in England xxv yeres, was brought, being a suckinge child, by his father into England, by occupacion a basketmaker.

SAINCT JAMES PARISHE.

Anthonye Vandevallye, borne in Brabant, a basketmaker, and haith byne here xvj yeres.

SAINTE BOTTOLPHES PARISHE.

Xp'ofe Wolman, and Marye his wif, both borne in Antwerpe, they haue byne in England v yeres, came hither for his lyvinge, a basketmaker.

Cecil MSS.

Return by the Aldermen in response to the Lord Mayor's precept re number of Strangers, 1582-3.

THE WARDE OF LANGBORNE.

Denisen. Thomas Bishopp, basketmaker, of the Englishe Church.

THE WARDE OF TOWER.

John Pipheron, basketmaker, and his wief, of the Dutche Church.

THE WARDE OF QUENEHITHE.

Denisen. Robert Simpson, a basketmaker, of the Englishe Church.

THE WARDE OF BRIDGE WITHOUT.

Eldrick Arnold, basketmaker, of the Englishe Church.

Denizen. Marten Slipen, basketmaker, and Jane his wief, of the Dutche Church.

THE WARDE OF BELINGSGATE.

Peter Foxe, basketmaker, and his wief, of the Englishe Church.

Garett Johnson,* basketmaker, of Thenglishe Church.

John Arnold, seruaunte to Richard Robinson,* basketmaker, of the Dutche Church.

John Rease, servaunte with Johnson,† a basketmaker, of the Englishe Church.

Cornelis Foster, basketmaker, of the Englishe Church.

John Vearson [or Pearson], Duchman, Basketmaker.

Cornelius Nicolas,‡ Duchman, Basketmaker.

Jonat Johnson, Duchman, Basketmaker.

TOWER WARDE.

John Peffold, Duche, Basketmaker.

NORTON FOLDGATE.

William Wagoner, basketmaker, borne in Gaunte and Annes his wife, haue bene in England xvj yeares, and are of the Dutche church. He hath two children, borne in England, no denison.

ST. JOHNS STRETE.

Moye Levttter, basketmaker, borne in Paris, hath dwelte in England xxxiiij yeares, and is of the Englishe church, no denison.

WHITECHAPPELL ALIAS ST. MARY MATFELLON.

Frauncis Cokmans,§ basketmaker, and Jane his wife, borne in Brabant, he hath bene here v yeare; he is of the

* One of the "foreigners" mentioned in the Orders of 1585, *vide* p. 43.

† Probably one of the English Basket Makers enfranchised in 1569, *vide* p. 41.

‡ One of the "foreigners" mentioned in the Orders of 1585, *vide* p. 43.

§ One of the "foreigners" mentioned in the Orders of 1585, *vide* p. 43.

Dutche church, and she of the Frenche church, no denison.

Cecil MSS. 1582-3.

The annswer(s) of the Masters and Wardens of all the seuerall Companies within the Citie of London (which haue licensed anye straungers for anie consideracions to vse anye trade or occupacion within the same by the space of sixe yeres last past) to the seuerall preceptes to them directed from the righte honorable the Lord Maior of the same Citie.

THE COMPANIE OF BASKETMAKERS.

The Wardens of the said Companie haue nether licensed nor admitted any the persons herevnder named to vse their trade of making baskettes, nevertheles the same persons, being straungers, do some of them kepe servauntes vnder them, and paye nothing for vsing of their trade excepte thacustomed quarteredge; the names of which persons together with their servauntes here ensue, viz:—

Frauncis Cotman, a journeyman.

Marten Slepung, denizen, and his servaunte John.

State Papers, Domestic, James I.

Return (18 September, 1618), by the Constables of the Liberty of the Clink, of the Strangers resident within their district.

Peter Fox, basketmaker, borne in Sneak, in West Freezland, vnder Prince Morris, and is of the Dutch Church, and hath byn 50 yeares in England, aged 78 yeares. The mark of Peter X Fox.

Christofer Haymnges, basketmaker, borne at Applingdam, in Freezland, vnder Prince Morris, and is of the Dutch Church, aged 21, and worketh neare Maide Lane vnder Henry Adrianson of Eastcheap, in London. X

Peter Maule, basketmaker, borne at Arcklus in Gelderland, vnder Prince Morris, and is of the Dutch Church, and aged 42, and hath byn in England 22 yeares. [Signed :] Peter Moll.

Peter Wamus, basketmaker, borne at Anwarpe, vnder Duke Albertus, and is of the Dutch Church, and worketh vnder Mr. Wheatley,* dwelling in Eastcheap. [Signed:] Pieter Weemas.

Leife Highway, basketmaker, borne neare Gaunt, vnder the Arch Duke, of 3 yeares being in the Liberty, and vseth the Dutch Church, and dwelleth in Rose Alley, Mr. Edw. Hatton being his Landlord. The mark of Leif X Highway.

Peter Walloone, basketmaker, aged 20 yeares, borne in Dort, in Holland, vnder Prince Morric, of the Dutch Church, and worketh in Mosses Alley, vnder W^m. Paxston, of Breadstreet, in London. The mark of Peter X Walloone.

Garatt Haragoodes, a basketmaker, comminge from Gisborne, vnder the Kinge of Spaine, and frequenteth the Dutch Church, and hath dwelt here 7 yeares. [Signed:] Gheeraert Heerregodts.

* Probably identical with "William Wheatlie," Prime Warden, circa 1600, *vide* p. 149.

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